## Alexander Scheiber

# JEWISH INSCRIPTIONS IN HUNGARY



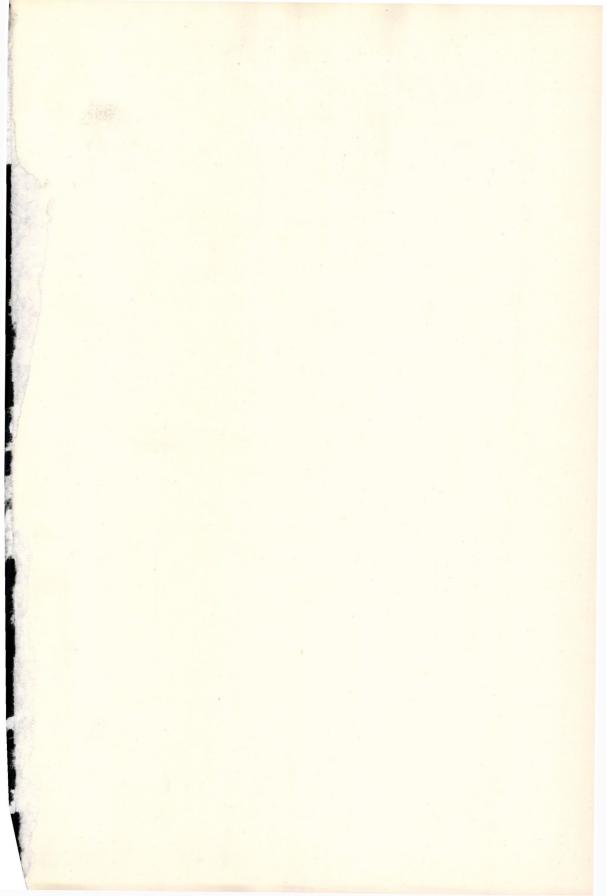
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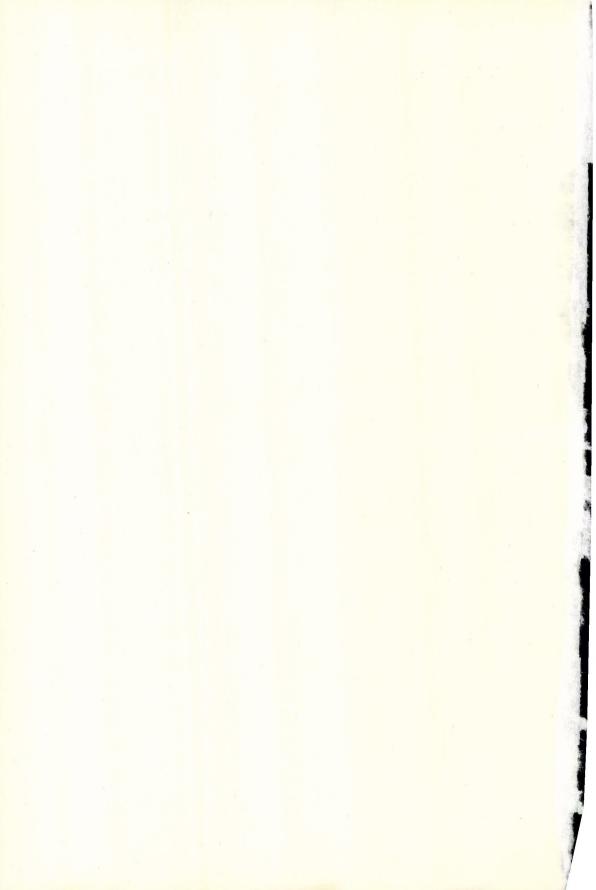
The world-renowned Hungarian scholar of Judaica is the first to report on the Jewish inscriptions of Hungary dating back to the Roman era, the Middle Ages and the Turkish occupation. The altogether 154 inscriptions are all given in translation and are richly documented with photographs. These inscriptions have survived on synagogues, tombstones, and a variety of objects (sword, seal, coin, textile, trenderli). In the last 25 years four old synagogues have been uncovered, two in Sopron and two in Buda. All the four are described in the present book.

The inscriptions bear the distinctive marks of various cultures: the tombstones from the Roman era reveal traces of Hellenized Roman culture, the ones from the Middle Ages show the influence of Rhineland, South-German, Austrian, and Bohemian-Moravian Jewish communities, while those surviving from the time of Hungary's Turkish occupation reflect the influence of Austrian, German and, to a lesser degree, Balkan Jewish cultural centers. The inscriptions from the Middle Ages are varied, born out of the need for personal and sometimes even poetic expression, while those from the Turkish era seem to be more rigid and are, with a few exceptions, composed after a rather uniform pattern.

The introductions present the internal and external history of each period, as well as the history of the settlements. The notes throw light upon the origin and distribution of names used by Jews.

The history of Hungarian Jewry has a rather small body of material testimonies. Most of them are collected here. It is for this reason that this collection deserves the attention of scholars of Judaism, Oriental studies, history, archaeology, history of art and ethnography alike. At the same time, Alexander Scheiber's unique book offers valuable reading experience to the interested layman.





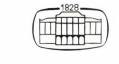
## JEWISH INSCRIPTIONS IN HUNGARY

#### ALEXANDER SCHEIBER

## CORPUS INSCRIPTIONUM HUNGARIAE JUDAICARUM

A temporibus saeculi III., quae exstant, usque ad annum 1686

1983



AKADÉMIAI KIADÓ BUDAPEST



E. J. BRILL LEIDEN

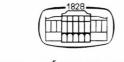
## JEWISH INSCRIPTIONS IN HUNGARY

From the 3rd Century to 1686

by

**ALEXANDER SCHEIBER** 

1983



AKADÉMIAI KIADÓ BUDAPEST



E. J. BRILL LEIDEN

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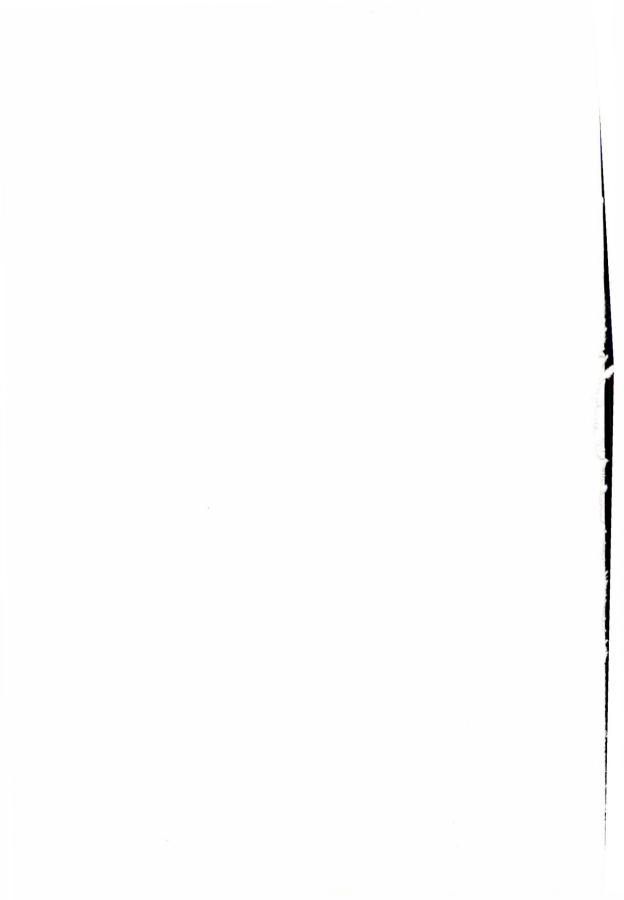
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Printed in Hungary

#### To the blessed memory of my Mother

#### MARIA ADLER הי"ד

Luctu meo vivit



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#### **PREFACE**

Several people in Hungary and abroad have urged me to gather the Jewish inscriptions in Hungary and make them accessible to those engaged in research on Jewish history. Though the quantity of material available is not very great, it is dispersed, which makes it hard for those working outside this country to get access to it; that is why I have written this book. I have been collecting the data in it since 1951, and have discussed some details in a number of different publications. To give some examples, I covered the inscriptions from Roman times at Intercisa in the Jewish Quarterly Review, NS, XLV, 1954-5, 189-97, and the inscriptions from the period of the Turkish occupation of Hungary (16th–17th centuries) on several occasions: 1. Acta Orientalia, II, 1952, 123–42; Historia Judaica, XIV, 1952, 145-53; Proceedings of the Twenty-Second Congress of Orientalists, I, Istanbul, 1953, 156. 2. Journal of Semitic Studies, I, 1956, 269-78; Budapest Régiségei (Antiquities of Budapest), XVIII, 1958, 501-18. 3. Acta Orientalia, XII, 1961, 107-38; Budapest Régiségei, XX, 1963, 469-80. 4. Acta Orientalia, XXV, 1972, 465-74. 5. Hungaro-Turcica. Studies in Honour of Julius Németh, Budapest, 1976, 321-24.

In this book I should have liked to present photographs of all the inscriptions, but I have not succeeded in doing so. For example, I have learned after a long correspondence that the medieval tombstones at Nagyszombat were destroyed after the War, and no photographs have survived.

Chronologically, the inscriptions presented in this book are divided as follows: there are 10 from the Roman period; 40 from the Middle Ages; and 104 from the period of the Turkish occupation of Hungary. Twelve stones from Eisenstadt (Kismarton) also date from the period covered in this book, but they have been omitted because descriptions of them have long been available (in B. Wachstein: *Die Grabschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Eisenstadt*, Vienna, 1922, 1–4).

The material consists overwhelmingly of gravestone inscriptions which have shared the common fate of almost all similar objects in the world: some have sunk into the earth (such as those from the Roman and medieval periods), others have been torn up, taken elsewhere, or built into the town gates near which most Jewish cemeteries were situated (e.g. in Buda and Nagyszombat), into the walls of Christian churches (as at Sopron) or into various other buildings (for instance, some of the medieval stones in Sopron and some in Buda from the Turkish period).

The inscriptions from the Middle Ages and the Turkish occupation make a contribution to the study of settlement history. We find mostly Hebrew and German names occurring. These inscriptions also show the state of Hebrew studies in Hungary at the time, as do the Hebrew clauses in documents.

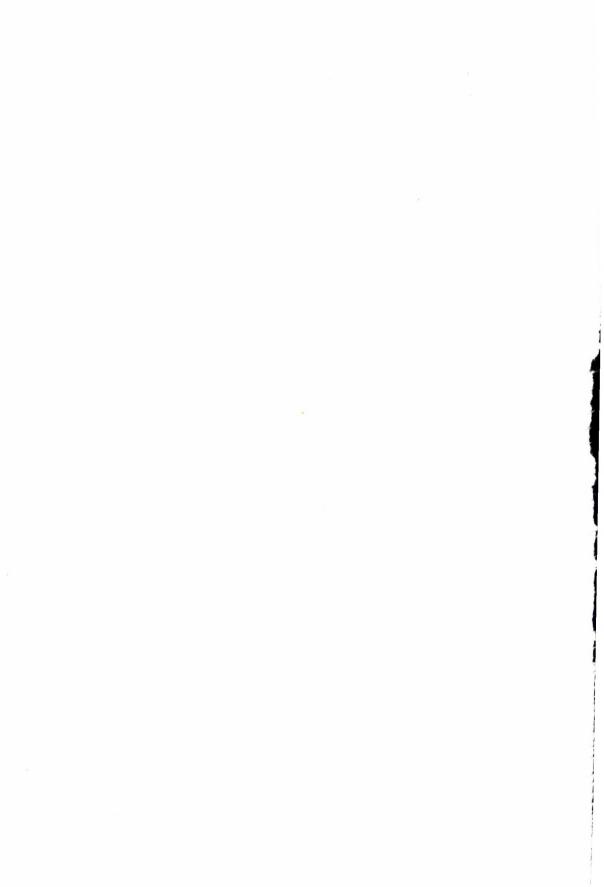
The wording of the inscriptions show an invariable similarity to other inscriptions of the same period. Stones from the Roman period were influenced by Romanized Hellenic culture; those from the Middle Ages by the Jewish centres in the Rhineland, Southern Germany, Bohemia and Moravia; and those from the Turkish period by the Austrian–German Jews. The medieval inscriptions are varied, with an independence in their wording that sometimes shows poetic aspirations; those from the Turkish period have, with a few exceptions, become stereotyped and uniform. The photographs of the stones shed light on the masons who carved them and the schools they belonged to.

Almost a century ago the editors of *Magyar Zsidó Szemle* (Hungarian Jewish Review) took up a suggestion of Simon Bacher's and declared their willingness to "publish in a separate volume" the grave inscriptions sent in to them (V, 1888, 302). Had that been followed through, a great many inscriptions from stones which have subsequently been lost or destroyed might have been preserved.

In fact, very few material relics of the history of the Jews in Hungary have come down to us; the bulk of what has survived is presented in this book, and this in itself was a good reason for compiling it. I should like to see this book serve as a source of reference for the writing of the history of the Jews in Hungary, one of the major tasks that still face us.

Budapest, July 9, 1983.

### THE ROMAN PERIOD



The Romans occupied the area of present-day Hungary by degrees. The Emperor Augustus extended the Empire's borders as far as the Danube, and in 35 B.C. the Romans occupied Siscia (Sziszek), after which they conquered the area between the rivers Dráva and Száva. By 9 B.C. one can presume that the Danube Bend was already under Roman rule. In 20 A.D. a permanent border post was built at Aquincum, within today's Óbuda district of Budapest. Before the end of the 1st century A.D. the occupation of the new province of Pannonia, which included Transdanubia, had been completed. Finally two campaigns against the Dacians were led by the Emperor Trajan, and in 105 A.D. the province of Dacia came into being in what was later to be known as Transylvania.<sup>1</sup>

One is faced with the question as to whether there were any Jews among the Romans who settled in Pannonia.<sup>2</sup>

Before tackling it, let us recall a few pieces of historical information.

Judaea lost its independence and became a Roman protectorate in 63 B.C., which explains why many of its inhabitants migrated to Italy, where they sought a new livelihood or sought their fortunes. After the conquest of Judaea in 70 A.D. many of the inhabitants were taken to Italy as slaves. It seems reasonable to suppose that in the wake of the legions that marched in from Italy to Germany,<sup>3</sup> and then on to Pannonia, there were also some Jews, either as soldiers, or as traders and craftsmen doing business with the soldiers.

"We must believe it possible that the appearance of the Jews is not only the result or consequence of involuntary emigration, but that as tradesmen and businessmen they came to substitute in part for the Syrian tradesmen and financiers eliminated by the difficult circumstance of that time" (G. Radan: 277).

One can easily explain how relatively large numbers of Jews appeared in Pannonia from the 3rd century onwards, leaving discernible traces behind them. The spread of eastern peoples and eastern cults in this area is linked with the visit the Emperor Septimius Severus made to Pannonia in 202. "Through his wife, Julia Domna, who stemmed from the family of the high priest of Hemesa," the Emperor "came close to the Syrian gods, but the direct knowledge of them was the outcome of his trips to the east, particularly of the lengthy stay in Syria at the end of 199, after the war against the Parthians." Septimius Severus was succeeded by members of his Syrian family, one of whom, Caracalla, in his *Lex Antoniniana*, granted equal rights to every provincial citizen in the Empire, including the Jews. In gratitude many took the Emperor's cognomen of Aurelius.

Not long afterwards the Jews were put to military use. The region along the Danube was protected by a system of frontier defences consisting of permanent, fortified military camps or *limes*, against the incursions of the warlike tribes of Quades, Sarmatians and Jazygians living in what later became known as Upper Hungary and the Great Hungarian Plain. As the Barbarian threat grew in the 3rd century, Syrian reserves were brought into Transdanubia, particularly to the camps of Intercisa (Dunapentele, now Dunaújváros) and Ulcisia Castra (Szentendre). At Intercisa troops from Emesa (Cohors milliaria Hemesenorum) were stationed, while at Ulcisia Castra there were Syrian archers (Cohors milliaria nova Surorum sagittariorum). Both might have had Jews in their ranks, although so far, we have proof only for Intercisa. Lajos Nagy is presumably right in saying "the Jews settled in large numbers between Esztergom and Dunapentele", 5 even though his assertion has not been fully documented.

Only one of the following proofs can warrant one declaring that a person who features in a surviving inscription was Jewish: <sup>6</sup>

- 1. If the adjective *Judaeus*, denoting Jewishness, features in the inscription.
- 2. If the seven-branched candelabrum, the Menorah, or some other Jewish symbol (lulab, etrog, shofar, etc.) is visible on the stone.
- 3. If the Greek words " $Ei_{\varsigma} \Theta \epsilon \delta \varsigma$ " (God is One), referring to Jewish belief, are contained in it.
- 4. If there is some reference to a function held in the Jewish religious community.

To that list one might add that Hebrew names from biblical or other sources may also signify a person of Jewish origin, but since in the course of assimilation most Jews chose names from their environment, they cannot be identified on this basis.

#### **ESZTERGOM**

(Solva)7

There were two Roman settlements on the site of today's city of Esztergom. The remains of one were destroyed during the work on the foundations of the Basilica on Várhegy carried out at the beginning of the 19th century. The other is thought to have been situated in the area of today's Víziváros district. Extensive traces of Roman burials have been found. "Ancient Esztergom, identified with Solva mansio, had two links with the Pannonian road network, one along the *limes* by the Danube leading to Aquincum and the other following the line of the present-day road between Esztergom and Dorog." There may have been a fortified camp on the Várhegy. Remnants of the Roman *castrum* have recently been found on Hideglelőskereszt-csúcs as well. The Esztergom area became prominent during Marcus Aurelius's campaign in 172–180. The Emperor pitched his camp in the area and wrote his *Confessiones* there as well.

In the spring of 1890, a huge limestone gravestone broken crossways into two was found near Esztergom, next to the Primate's brick-kiln. It was purchased from the Primate's collection and taken in 1934 to the Hungarian Jewish Museum. The Jewish character of the stone is borne out by the names and by the seven-branched Menorah, with its candles alight. The stone was set up in memory of a father and mother, civilians, and clearly Roman citizens with full rights. The inscription is in a mixture of Greek and Latin, as in the case of the stones from Aquincum (No. 2) and Gigen (No. 10).



Inscription 1

#### **3RD CENTURY**

#### M6MOPIA IVDATI PATIRI ET M6MOPIA KACCI6 6ΥΛ



Memoria Iudati patiri et memoria Cassi(a)e Εὐλ(ογία)

In memory of father Juda and in memory of Cassia Bless(ing).

Discovered in 1890 in Esztergom, by the Primate's brick-kiln. Height: 148 cm; width: 76 cm; thickness: 11.5 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection, Budapest. Inventory No. 2500.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: R. Fröhlich:  $A\acute{E}$ , XI, 1891, 236, No. 26; CIL III, 10599; S. Krausz:  $A\acute{E}$ , XXIV, 1904, 172–3; idem:  $IMIT~\acute{E}vk\"{o}nyve$ , 1904, 24, Note 1; J. Oehler: MGWJ, LIII, 1909, 449, No. 212; Frey: CIJ, I, 488, No. 676; G. Radan: AAH XXV, 1973, 272–3; E. Thomas: "Eins ist der Gott!" Über jüdische Denkmäler der Römerzeit in Pannonien', Pannonia, V, 1977, Nos.

3-4, 23; I. Bilkei: 'Die griechischen Inschriften des römischen Ungarns', Alba Regia. Annales Musei Stephani Regis, XVII, Székesfehérvár, 1979, 27, No. 8; L. Barkóczi and S. Soproni: Die Römischen Inschriften Ungarns (RIU), III, Bp., 1981, 154, No. 787.

References: E. Grünvald: ZsSz, XXIX, 1934, Nos. 12–13; A. Gráf: IMIT Évkönyve, 1939, 245; Ilona Benoschofsky: ÚÉ, XXXVIII, 1983, No. 1.

Photographs: AÉ, XXIV, 1904, 171; Ararát Évkönyv...az 1939...évre (Ararat yearbook... for 1939), Bp., 1939, 33; General Encyclopedia in Yiddish, Yidn. IV, New York, 1950, 555; AAH XXV, 1973, 273, Fig. 7; E. Thomas: op. cit., 24; Alba Regia, XVII, 27, 47, Fig. 3; L. Barkóczi and S. Soproni: op. cit., 355, Plate CIX; Severin, 258.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: Iudati: the father's name is 'πίτπ, which is the Greek Ἰούδας, see F. Preisigke: Namenbuch, Heidelberg, 1922, 522. The forms  $I\alpha v\delta \alpha$  and  $Iov\delta \alpha$  also occur, see H. Wuthnow: Die semitischen Menschennamen, Leipzig, 1930, 57, 58. The form Ἰούδας exists in Greek papyrus mss. as well (V. A. Tcherikover and A. Fuks: Corpus Papyrorum Judaicarum, I, Cambridge, Mass., 1957, 165, No. 24; 188, No. 43).

Same line: "der Punkt nach IVDAT bisher nicht bemerkt" (L. Barkóczi and S. Soproni: op. cit., 154).

Same line: PATIRI is given by Krausz as PATP and by Frey as PATIR, yet another I at the end is clearly discernible.

Line 2: ET can be clearly discerned at the beginning of the line, but features in none of the text publications so far.

Same line: The woman's name is either the Graeco-Latin Cassia, the female form of Cassius (A. Kerényi: A dáciai személynevek (Dacian personal names), Bp., 1941, 18, No. 169; S. Sanie: Studii şi cercetări de istorie veche şi arheologie, XXVIII, 1977, 141), or the Hebrew קציעה, the name of one of Job's daughters (Job xlii, 14). The CACIA form of the name would point to the latter (Frey: CIJ, I, 316, No. 413). This female name comes from the Greek κασια, meaning 'cinnamon', see L. Koehler: Lexicon in Veteris Testamenti Libros, Leiden, 1953, 847; B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 52; J. Nacht: מחקרים (Megillat Ahimaaz, ed. B. Klar, Jerusalem, 1974, 26). R. Fröhlich (AÉ, XI, 1891, 236) and S. Krausz (AÉ, XXIV, 1904, 172) erroneously read it as KACGTG, which would be the Greek transcription of the Hebrew חסיר, meaning 'pious'.

Same line: S. Krausz believes that at the end of the line there might have been another word: MATR, but there is no trace of it, nor would there have been room for it.

Line 3: S. Krausz ( $A\acute{E}$ , XXIV, 1904, 172) and A. Gráf (*IMIT Évkönyve*, 1939, 245) read 6VA, which they interpret as the name of the girl who had the tombstone erected for her parents. The reading is mistaken, because the stem of the Y reaches down below the line, showing that it is not a letter V.  $E\mathring{v}\lambda(o\gamma i\alpha)$  is the equivalent of the Hebrew ברכה (blessing), usually abbreviated as  $\mathring{v}$  on Jewish tombstones.

#### ÓBUDA

(Aquincum)

-Taken for a time to Alberti-Irsa-

The area around Aquincum was conquered by the Romans about 10 B.C. Presumably the Emperor Domitian visited the area personally in 89 A.D., at which time a legion was stationed in Aquincum. That may have been when a fortified camp was built, to accommodate the legion. From 106 until the end of Roman rule the Aquincum section was garrisoned by the same legion, the Legio II Adiutrix. In 194, under Septimius Severus, Aquincum was granted the rank of a *colonia*. In the 2nd century, whole units were transferred here from the East. <sup>10</sup> By the beginning of the 3rd century, one can assume there was a proper Syrian community in Aquincum, forming a separate *collegium*. <sup>11</sup> There may have been Jews among them, and we have certain knowledge of one family.

#### THE FIRST HALF OF THE 4TH CENTURY

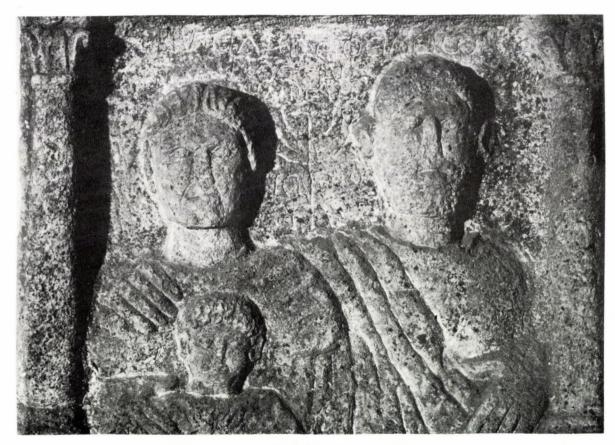
The gravestone was acquired by the family of the Counts Szapáry at an auction in Pest in the 1830s or 1840s. They took it to Alberti-Irsa, and placed it in the wall of a small chapel in the park of their manor house. Its presence there was first reported in 1878 by Károly Wolff (Vajda), who was a tutor to the Szapáry family. The solution he gave to the original inscription does not make much sense, and he did not notice the Jewish inscription which had been cut into the



Inscription 2

stone later, and was first reported on in writing by Róbert Fröhlich in his noteworthy reading.<sup>13</sup> Sámuel Krausz was right in supposing that if the stone appeared at the Pest auction it must have originated from Aquincum, 14 and not from Intercisa, as was later claimed by András Gráf. 15 The upper part of the stone shows a man on the right, and a woman with a child on her arm on the left. The later owners engraved a secondary inscription of Jewish origin between the figures and the aetoma (triangular surface). The fact of a gravestone being purchased and reused shows that we are dealing with a late Jewish relic. János Szilágyi dates it from the end of the 4th century. 16 The parents selected the gravestone so that the relief would suit them and their dead little boy. According to B. Kanael: "Es ist dies die einzige jüdische Bildnisgruppe auf einem Grabstein der römischen Periode, die bisher bekannt ist."17 Unfortunately the stone does not prove this, since the group picture shows a Roman family. 18 To indicate their Jewishness, a seven-branched Menorah was incised for each of the three persons. In the past only two of these had been recognized, and the child was thought to have a bird in his hand. 19 The Menorah also features among the objects being carried off from the Temple in Jerusalem on the triumphal arch of Titus, and it is understandable that it should have served as a symbol for the Jews of the Diaspora.<sup>20</sup> The avowal  $Ei\zeta$   $\Theta \epsilon \dot{o}\zeta$  engraved three times was also designed to certify the Jewishness of all three. Previously only one of the inscriptions had been discerned; the other two have been deciphered and are published here for the first time. The original inscription has no Jewish connotation whatever.<sup>21</sup>

The inscription presented here is in Graeco-Latin and in Graeco-Latin script. The Jews who came to Europe from the East spoke and wrote in Greek. Even if they forgot the spoken language and switched to Latin, they preserved the script as a tradition. Of course with the passage of time their orthography became weaker. A similar phenomenon is to be seen on the stones from Esztergom (No. 1) and Gigen (No. 10).



Detail of Stone 2



#### MHMORIA ANECTACIO ET ΔΗΚΟΥCANI ET BHNEIAMI ET ΦΕΙΛΕΙω NOCTRω





εις θεως

εις θεως

Memoria An(a)stasio et Decusani et Ben(e)iami (et) filio nostro

Είς Θε(ό)ς

Είς Θε(ό)ς

Είς Θε(ό)ς

In Memory of Anastasius and Decusanes and Benjamin, our son

God is one

God is one

God is one

Discovered c. 1830–40 at a Pest auction. Height: 181 cm; width: 76 cm; thickness: 28 cm. Now in the Hungarian National Museum. Inventory No. 62.70.1.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: R. Fröhlich:  $A\acute{E}$ , XI, 1891, 232–3, No. 18; CIL, III, 10611; S. Krausz:  $A\acute{E}$ , XXIV, 1904, 170–2; idem: IMIT Évkönyve (IMIT Yearbook), 1904, 22–33; B. Kuzsinszky:  $M\acute{u}zeumi$  és Könyvtári Értesítő (Museum and library bulletin), II, 1908, 98–9; J. Oehler: MGWJ, LIII, 1909, 449, No. 211 (fragmentarily); Frey: CIJ, I, 487–8, No. 675; G. Radan: AAH XXV, 1973, 270; E. Thomas: op. cit. 23; I. Bilkei: Alba Regia, XVII, 1979, 27, No. 9.

References: A Jövő (The future), II, 1898, No. 12; J. Szilágyi: Aquincum, Bp., 1956, 46, 92; L. Hidvégi: 'Móra Ferenc levelesládájából' (From Ferenc Móra's mailbox), MN, XXXVI, 1980, No. 6.

Photographs:  $A\acute{E}$ , XXIV, 1904, 171;  $MK\acute{E}$ , II, 1908, 98, Fig. 34; E.R. Goodenough: Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period, III, New York, 1953, No. 857; B. Kanael: Die Kunst der antiken Synagoge, Frankfurt a/M, 1961, Fig. 57; AAH XXV, 1973, 271. Figs. 3–5; E. Thomas: op. cit. 23; Alba Regia, XVII, 27; The Archaeology of Roman Pannonia, ed. A. Lengyel and G. T. B. Radan, Bp., 1980. CXXXV. 1.; Severin, 259.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: 'Αναστασιος = resurrected, see, for example, Frey: CIJ, II, Rome, 1952, 205, No. 1123. The name corresponds to the Hebrew אליקים, see J. F. Gumpertz: Tarbiz, XXV, 1955/56, 349.

Same line: Decusani: the wife's name may have been Δικαιοσύνη, equivalent to the Latin *Pietas*, and the Hebrew צדקה. The latter also occurs as a woman's name (J. Nacht: סמלי אשה, Tel Aviv, 1959, 205). Δίκαιος is a man's name which occurs in an Egyptian Greek papyrus of the 3rd century B.C.; see V.A. Tcherikover and A. Fuks: *Corpus Papyrorum Judaicarum*, I, Cambridge, Mass., 1957, 180, No. 33.

Line 2: Ben (e) iami: בנימן: is the dative of the Greek Beniamis, sees. S. Krausz: AÉ, XXIV, 1904, 171. It occurs in Frey: CIJ, II, 127, No. 908. It also known in the form Bενιαμής: B. Lifshitz (Corpus of Jewish Inscriptions par Frey, I, New York, 1975. Prolegomenon: 76, No. 693; 83, No. 715b). The form Βενιαμιν is of course more frequent (F. Preisigke: Namenbuch enthaltend alle griechischen, lateinischen, ägyptischen, hebräischen, arabischen und sonstigen semitischen und nichtsemitischen Menschennamen, soweit sie in griechischen Urkunden [Papyri, Ostraka, Inschriften, Mumienschildern usw.] Ägyptens sich vorfinden, Heidelberg, 1922, 521; Frey: CIJ, II, 132, No. 920 = Biram Jubilee

Volume, Jerusalem, 1956, 180). The form Βεννιαμιν is also known (Heinz Wuthnow: Die semitischen Menschennamen in griechischen Inschriften und Papyri des vorderen Orients, Leipzig, 1930, 35).

Same line: The second "et" is a dittography which can be deleted.

Line 4:  $\Theta \varepsilon \omega \varsigma$  is a scribal error for  $\Theta \varepsilon o \varsigma$ .  $Ei \varsigma \Theta \varepsilon o \varsigma$  is the Greek translation of the Jewish creed (ה" אחד). By the Roman period Hebrew was not widely known even in Palestine; for instance in Hellenistic Caesarea even the שמע was recited in Greek (*jer. Sota*, VII, 1). This phrase appears in a number of inscriptions, for example on the terracotta amulet from Egypt to be found in the Budapest Museum of Fine Arts (A. Scheiber: JQR, NS, XLVIII, 1957/58, 6–12; V.A. Tcherikover, A. Fuks and M. Stern: op.cit. III, Cambridge, Mass., 1964, 166, No. 1539).

Lines 5-6: were discovered and first deciphered by the author.

#### DUNAÚJVÁROS—DUNAPENTELE

(Intercisa)

The word "Intercisa" means "inserted" and is the attribute of "castra" or "statio". When the number of Roman fortifications was increased under the Emperors Domitian and Trajan (81–117), a new fortified camp was built beside the Danube between the existing ones.<sup>22</sup> The troops stationed there (Cohors I Alpinorum equitata) were responsible for security on the road connecting Intercisa with Dacia. In the German-Sarmatian war the camp was destroyed and its garrison routed (between 169 and 171). The camp was rebuilt and, perhaps around 176, a new garrison arrived with Marcus Aurelius, who was returning from Syria: 23 the Cohors I milliaria Hemesenorum, which consisted of troops from Emesa.<sup>24</sup> In 1962 excavations revealed a Syrian basilica. Syrian influence and the numbers of Syrian troops grew under Septimius Severus, due to the Emperor's family connections with Syria. The imperial couple were very popular with the Jews both in Palestine and the Diaspora, as is clearly shown by a Greek inscription dated 197 in a Palestinian synagogue in honour of the Emperor, his wife and family.<sup>25</sup> In Rome there was a synagogue that bore the name of Severus.<sup>26</sup> Traces of that popularity have been preserved in the Midrash.<sup>27</sup> One of Severus's successors, Alexander Severus, was nicknamed by the inhabitants of Antioch and Alexandria syrus archisynagogus, a reference to his affection for the Jews and Syrians.28

Jews were living in Emesa (today Homs in Syria) as early as the period of the Second Temple. There are references to Emesa in the Talmud (קוֹת jer. Jeb., xi, 11d). Jews went there from לשתור with a question regarding the proselytes. From this the great number of the Jews can be deduced and the extent to which their religion had gained ground among the inhabitants. The Roman troops from Emesa may also have included Jews, for an inscription from Concordia reads as follows: "de num(ero) regi(orum) Emes(enorum) Judeoru(m)".29

The votive tablet below clearly shows that the people of Emesa arriving in Intercisa<sup>30</sup> included many Jews, who formed a religious community and built a synagogue.

The tablet was discovered by Flóris Rómer in 1864 built into the wall of a back building at the post house at Dunapentele. At that time a relief of Alexander Severus could still be seen on the upper part of the tablet, but it has vanished since. The inscription, which was first deciphered correctly by Theodor Mommsen, says that Cosmius, who is *praepositus stationis*, i.e. chief of the customs post<sup>31</sup> and *archisynagogus*, president of the synagogue, has erected a votive tablet in honour of Emperor Alexander Severus and his mother, Julia Mamaea. Cosmius must have held an important office of state, as Intercisa at the time was a trading centre and the starting point of a Roman road that led through the Great Hungarian Plain to Transylvania along the Maros valley.

The post of archisynagogus in Intercisa clearly indicates that there was a synagogue in Alexander Severus's time (222–35). Sámuel Krausz, however, did not think it likely, "because it cannot be supposed that the Jews in Roman Pannonia were in a position to form communities". József Hampel even explains the word by suggesting a synagoga might have been an association of people of Syrian origin: "That association . . . may primarily have been a burial society." Of Cosmius he writes, "There is no reason whatever for considering him a Jew; but he could very well have been a Syrian, and by 'synagoga' a corporation of Syrians should be understood." András Gráf held a similar opinion: "Here again it should be emphasized, however, that the synagogue referred to is not necessarily a Jewish assembly. With the Jews and throughout the Hellenistic East in general the word meant a community or an association, and only later did it come to denote a temple or house of worship." Similar opinion: "15 company of the synagogue of worship." And only later did it come to denote a temple or house of worship."

During the preparations for publishing all the inscriptions from Intercisa recently, the tablet received a careful cleaning, which revealed another word written vertically outside the area of the inscription field on the right hand side in the frame of the *tabula ansata*: IVDEOR, i.e. Judeor(um), which clinches the argument. It was deciphered by F. Fülep, and has unequivocally established the

sense in which the term synagogue is used, the presence of Jews in Intercisa, and the religious status of Cosmius.<sup>36</sup>

Excavation work done at various times at Intercisa has turned up no remains relating to the synagogue, and there can be little hope of any being discovered in the future. Of course one should not imagine a large-scale synagogue of architectural merit. A rough idea of it can be gained from the synagogue from Roman times that lay nearest to it geographically, the one at Stobi, the former capital of Macedonia (in Yugoslavia). There, remains of both a 3rd century and a 4th century synagogue have been excavated by Serbian archaeologists, along with a long inscription in Greek on a column.<sup>37</sup>

A votive tablet (Inscription 8) from Mursa, in Pannonia Inferior, first published incomplete in 1960, and in a more complete form in 1965, speaks of [pro]seucha ( $=\pi\varrho\sigma\varepsilon\nu\chi\eta$ ), which the Jews in Greek-speaking regions used as a synonym for  $\sigma\nu\nu\alpha\gamma\omega\gamma\eta$ . The Mursa synagogue is older than the one at Intercisa, since by the time of Septimius Severus it was already in ruins and in need of repair.<sup>38</sup> Yugoslavia is in any case in a fortunate position with regard to Judaistic material. Another inscription was discovered in 1954 at Salona, and bears out the presence there of four groups: Roman, Jewish, Christian and Barbarian.<sup>39</sup>

The Intercisa synagogue must have been a simple building; <sup>40</sup> only the stone portal may have been more ornate. The members of the congregation, some of them soldiers, would no longer have understood any Hebrew even though they said their prayers in it. The delegates who came to them from Palestine to teach, preach and collect donations with the Emperor's permission for the academy of the Patriarch of the Holy Land spoke to them in Latin. They wrote only in Latin. Not a single Hebrew letter occurs on any of the Pannonian inscriptions, unlike those found elsewhere, which include Hebrew phrases and on occasions whole Hebrew texts. <sup>40a</sup> But the first word on the only surviving votive tablet refers to their God, to the *Deus aeternus*, a translation of a biblical expression.



Inscription 3

#### BETWEEN 222 AND 235

DEO· AETER

NO PRO SAL· D·

N SEV A ......

... P· F· AVG· E ...

... AE· AVG· M· AV· V

RED L COSMIVS PR

STA· SPONDILL· A· SYNAG

IVDEOR

Deo aeter
no pro sal(ute) d(omini)
n(ostri) Sev(eri) A[lexan
dri] p(ii) f(elicis) Aug(usti) e[t Jul(iae)
Mamae]ae Aug(ustae) m(atris) Au(gusti) v(otum)
red(dit) l(ibens) Cosmius pr(aepositus)
sta(tionis) Spondill. a(rchi)synag(ogus)
Jud(a)eor(um)

To the eternal God.
For the salvation of our lord,
Severus A[lexander],
the pious, felicitous emperor an[d of Julia

Mamaea] the empress, mother of the emperor,
does Cosmius, the chief
of the customs station of Spondill(a) (?), the
president of the synagogue of the Jews gladly
fulfil his vow.

Discovered in 1864 in one of the buildings at the post house in Dunapentele. Height: 58 cm; width: 82 cm; thickness: 22.5 cm. Now in the Hungarian National Museum. Inventory No. 154/1874, 2.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: F. Rómer: AK, IV, 1864, 60, No. XXVIII (here the Jewish connection cannot yet be established); T. Ortvay: AK, X, 1876, 123, No. 19 (again the inscription's Jewish character is not yet evident); CIL, III, 3327, 10301; S. Krausz: IMIT Évkönyve, 1902, 298–303; J. Oehler: MGWJ, LIII, 1909, 449, No. 209; S. Klein: MéJ, XXV, 1935, 141–2; idem: Bulletin of the Jewish Palestine Exploration Society, III, 1935, No. 2, 63–5; Frey: CIJ, I, 489, No. 677; F. Fülep: Intercisa, I, Bp., 1954, 269, No. 329; in the German edition: 323, No. 329; A. Scheiber: JQR, NS XLV, 1954–5, 194; G. Allon: תולדות היהודים בארץ־ישראל, II, Tel Aviv, 1955, 104 (with mistakes); F. Fülep: AAH, XVIII, 1966, 93; G. Radan: AAH XXV, 1973, 268; E. Thomas: op. cit., 22.

References: J. Hampel: AÉ, XXVI, 1906, 230, 237-9; F. Grünvald: ZsSz, XXIX, 1934, Nos. 12-13; A. Gráf: IMIT Évkönyve, 1939, 241-2; C. Blum: Calendarul-Almanah. Evreesc., 5705-1945, 183-9 (which I have been unable to obtain); A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, VIII, 1952, No. 4; X, 1954, No. 7.

Photographs: IMIT Évkönyve, 1902, 301; AÉ, XXVI, 1906, 229; MéJ, XXV, 1935, 141; Intercisa, I, Plate LXXX, Fig. 2; JQR, NS XLV, 1954–5, Plate 1 between pp. 196 and 197; F. Fülep: AAH, XVIII, 1966, after p. 98, t. LXXV-LXXVI; AAH, XXV, 1973, 269, Fig. 2; E. Thomas: op. cit. 22; Severin, 257.

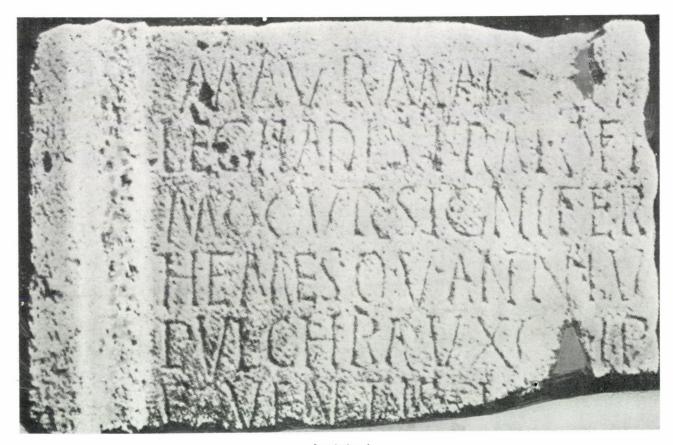
#### REMARKS:

Line 1: A translation of אלהי עולם (Jes. xl. 28). Deus aeternus also occurs in other places: CIL, V, 769, 770; E.J. Bickerman: 'The Altars of Gentiles', Revue Internationale des Droits de l'Antiquité, III Série, Tome V, 1958, 155–6; A. and J. Šašel: op. cit., 102, No. 285.

Line 6: Cosmius: this is the correct reading given by József Hampel ( $A\acute{E}$ , XXVI, 1906, 230), J. Juster (Les Juifs dans l'empire Romain, II, Paris, 1914, 257) and Gyula Gábor (IMIT Évkönyve, 1931, 152). Not Cosmus. See L. Barkóczi: AAH, XVI, 1964, 309. Similar names are: κοσμα, (Sanh. 98a; Shabbat 75a); Kοσμα, Kοσμας (A. Kohut: Aruch. VII, 148; S. Krauss: Griechische und lateinische Lehnwörter im Talmud, Midrasch und Targum, II, Berlin, 1899, 535); (S. Klein: Jüdisch-Palästinisches Corpus Inscriptionum, Vienna-Berlin, 1920, 51, No. 157). The female name Kοσμία occurs on a Greek papyrus from Egypt dating from 240 B.C. (V.A. Tcherikover and A. Fuks: Corpus Papyrorum Judaicarum, I, Cambridge, Mass., 1957, 182, No. 36).

Line 7: Spondill. was identified by S. Klein with Pentele: "How 'Spondilla' became transformed into 'Pentele' is a matter I entrust to the philologists." (Bulletin, III, 1935, No. 2, 64; MéJ, XXV, 1935, 141-2; S. Büchler: ibid., 207). The supposition is incorrect, because Pentele received its name from St. Pantaleon (Παντελεήμων), who died a martyr's death in Nicodemia in 305. There was a convent of Greek nuns at Pentele. A document from 1238 includes the words "abbas ecclesie S. Pantaleonis de insula Danubii" (D. Pais: MNy, XXII, 1926, 49; Gy. Moravcsik: Szent István-Emlékkönyv (Memorial volume for St. Stephen), I, Bp., 1938, 419). According to János Harmatta "the word spondilla presumably derives from the Greek word spondaules, meaning a musician who plays music at sacrifices... The classical Latin spondaulia or spondalia originates from that, and this may have been the origin of spondilla as used in vulgar Latin in the province to denote a lower-ranking official of the Jewish synagogue, who provided musical accompaniment at sacrifices" (Intercisa, I, Bp., 1954, 216). Later F. Fülep proved the derivation in detail ('New Remarks on the Question of the Jewish Synagogue at Intercisa', AAH, XVIII, 1966, 93-4). J. Fitz accepted both the reading and the explanation (Les Syriens à Intercisa, Bruxelles, 1972, 187), and so did B. Lifshitz (Corpus of Jewish Inscriptions par Frey, I, New York, 1975, Prolegomenon, 59-60), but he adds: "The author of the dedication was a precentor in the synagogue, but this office is not attested in the Jewish communities". E.J. Bickerman writes that not "in the whole range of rabbinical information is there any hint at Jewish sacrifices performed away from the Temple in the Graeco-Roman age" (op. cit., 160-1). However, by the 3rd century sacrifices were no longer made by Jews anywhere, and it seems to be an exaggeration to speak of music at a modest religious service in a simple synagogue of the Diaspora such as the one at Intercisa would have been. The word still awaits an explanation. We continue to assume it is a place-name. Fülep gives the following transcription: "spondilla synag(ogae) Iudeor(um)."

Same line: a(rchi)synag(ogus): this reading was first suggested by I. Löw (Bulletin of the Jewish Palestine Exploration Society, III, 1935, No. 3, 107; quoted by Ferenc Fülep, without making use of the suggestion in his own reading: Intercisa, I, Bp., 1954, 216). This is the Greek equivalent of (Joma vii, 1). Cf. S. Krauss: Synagogale Altertümer, Berlin-Vienna, 1922, 442, s.v. archisynagoge; E.L. Sukenik: HUCA, XXIII, 2, 1950/51, 544, 545, 550; S.D. Schwartzman: HUCA, XXIV, 1952/53, 118; Biblica, XXXV, 1954, 140; M.F. Squarciapino: Scritti in Memoria di Attilio Milano, Città di Castello, 1970, 183–91; S.J.D. Cohen: JQR, LXXII, 1981, 13.



Inscription 4

## SECOND HALF OF THE 3RD CENTURY

It has been assumed that the persons recorded on the following gravestones were members of the Jewish community at Intercisa. The stones bear no Jewish symbols or any reference to Jewish origin or membership in the Jewish community; their Jewish origin is indicated only by their Hebrew names. Based on these names, F. Fülep has demonstrated the presence of a Jewish diaspora in Intercisa (*Intercisa*, I, 217), while S.M. Stern remarks: "Nevertheless it seems to me that the names in question are (or can be) Syrian Aramaic rather than Hebrew, so that there is no specific evidence to show that their bearers were Jews." (*Jewish Chronicle*, July 7, 1961).

The left-hand fragment of the inscription on one of the gravestones informs us that M. Aurelius Malchias, who was a member of the 2nd Auxiliary Legion and became a procuratorial outrider, erected a gravestone for someone, presumably his father, who bore one name only, Mocur, and although not a Roman citizen, was the standard-bearer of the Emesa cohort, and for his mother, Pulchra. Malchias, with his biblical and indeed godly name, was a Jew (he must have followed his mother's faith, as his father does not seem to have been a Jew). As a Roman citizen he was transferred to the 2nd Auxiliary Legion in Aquincum, while his parents remained in Intercisa. But he wished to be placed in the family vault after death.

4.

M· AVR· MALC[H]IA...
LEG· II. ADI· STRAT· OFF...
MOCVR· SIGNIFER C...
HEMES· Q· V· ANN· LV...
PVLCHRA VXO ... IP...
FVENTISSIM ....

M. Aur. Malc[h]ia[s mil(es)]
leg(ionis) II. adi(utricis) strat(or) off(icii) [co(n)s(ularis)]
Mocur signifer c[oh(ortis) (mill.)]
Hemes(enorum) q(ui) v(ixit) ann(is) LV [Aur.?]
Pulchra uxo[r] ip[sius]
(pi)entissim[a posuit]

33



Stone 5

M. Aurelius Malc[h]ia[s], [a soldier] of the 2nd Auxiliary Legion, outrider of the [consular] office, to Mocur, the standard-bearer of the Emesa r[egiment], who lived 55 years, to [Aur.?]

Pulchra, his most devoted wife, [he has erected].

Discovered c. 1890 on the Szitányi estate at Dunapentele.

Height: 40 cm; width: 60 cm: thickness: 14 cm.

It was destroyed while in the First District Grammar School in Budapest. No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

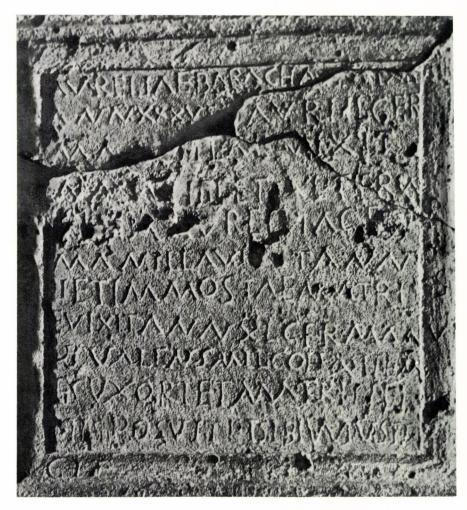
Text publications: R. Fröhlich:  $A\acute{E}$ , X, 1890, 231–2, No. 32; CIL, III, 10315; E. Mahler:  $A\acute{E}$ , XXV, 1905, 232; B. Kuzsinszky:  $MK\acute{E}$ , II, 1908, 86–7; F. Fülep: *Intercisa*, I, 236, No. 17; in the German edition: 280, No. 17; A. Scheiber: JQR, NS, XLV, 1954–5, 195–6.

References: J. Szilágyi: *MM*, II, 1947, 11; G. Radan: *AAH*, XXV, 1973, 272. Photographs: *MKÉ*, II, 1908, 86, Plate 15; *Intercisa*, Plate XLV, Fig. 3; *JQR*, NS, XLV, 1954–5. Fig 2, between pp. 196 and 197.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: Mal[c]hia[s]: the biblical מלכיה (I. Chronicles vi. 23; ix. 12), see R. Fröhlich:  $A\acute{E}$ , X, 1890, 231. מלכיהו appears on two seals and in an ostrakon letter from Arad (A. Reifenberg: IEJ, IV, 1954, 140; N. Avigad: Eretz-Israel, XII, Jerusalem, 1975, 67, 75).  $M\alpha\lambda\chi\iota\alpha\varsigma$ ,  $M\alpha\lambda\chi\iota\alpha\varsigma$  (F. Preisigke: op. cit., 523), as well as the forms  $M\alpha\lambda\chi\iota\sigma\upsilon$  and  $M\alpha\lambda\chi\iota\sigma\upsilon$  (H. Wuthnow: op. cit., 70) belong here. E. Mahler ( $A\acute{E}$ , XXV, 1905, 232) and J. Szilágyi (MM, II, 1947, 11) read it as Malcihia. This latter reading would obscure the Jewish character.

Line 6: fuentissim[a]: this makes no sense at all. It is a mistake made in the chiselling, and should definitely be read as pientissima. B. Kuzsinszky  $(MK\acute{E}, II, 1908, 87)$  interpreted it this way.



Inscription 5

### SECOND HALF OF THE 3RD CENTURY

The niche of the gravestone contains a half-length portrait of a man, two women and two little girls. On the bar between the relief and the inscription there is a sacrificial scene. As the text shows, Germanius Valens, a soldier in the Emesa regiment, raised the stone in memory of his wife Baracha, her two daughters (the four-year-old Aurelia Germanila and the two-year-old Aurelia Germanilla), his mother Immosta, and himself. As her name clearly shows, his wife was Jewish.

5.

D·M·
AVRELIAE BARACHAE .IXIT
ANN·XXXV ET AVRHL·GER
MA[N]ILAE VIXIT

ANN·IIII ET ALTERA
FILIA AVRELIA GER
MANILLA VI... ANN·
II ET IMMOSTAE MATRI SV
E VIXIT ANN·LX GERMAN

VIXIN VALENS MIL·COH·(X) HEM
ES·VXORI ET MATRI ET FI
LIIS POSVIT ET SIBI VIVIVS FE
CIT

D(is) M(anibus)
Aureliae Barachae [v]ixit
ann. XXXV et Aurel. Ger
ma[n]ilae vixit

ann. IIII et altera
filia Aurelia Ger
manilla vi[xit] ann.
II et Immostae matri su(a)
e vixit ann. LX. German

ius Valens mil. coh. (mill.) Hem es(enorum) uxori et matri et fi liis posuit et sibi v(iv)us fe cit

> To the gods of death. To Aurelia Baracha, who lived 35 years and Aurelia Germanila, who lived

- 4 years and his other daughter, Aurelia Germanilla, who lived 2 years and his mother, Immosta, who lived 60 years, Germa-
- nius Valens, soldier of the Hemesa regiment, for his wife and mother and daughters has erected this, and for himself even during his life has made it.

Discovered c. 1905 in Károly Tiszuczky's vineyard at Dunapentele. Height: 193 cm; width: 90 cm; thickness: 17 cm.

Now in the Hungarian National Museum.

Inventory No. 22/1905, 12.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: E. Mahler:  $A\hat{E}$ , XXV, 1905, 225–6, No. 4; F. Fülep: *Intercisa*, I, 236, No. 19; in the German edition: 281, No. 19; A. Scheiber: JQR, NS, XLV, 1954–5, 196.

References: J. Hampel: AÉ, XXVI, 1906, 270; XXVII, 1907, 314; G. Radan: AAH, XXV, 1973, 272.

Photographs:  $A\dot{E}$ , XXVI, 1906, 267, Plate XX; *Intercisa*, I, Plate XXXVIII, Fig. 4; JQR, NS, XLV, 1954–5, Fig. 3 between pp. 196 and 197; AAH, XXV, 1973, Fig. 6.

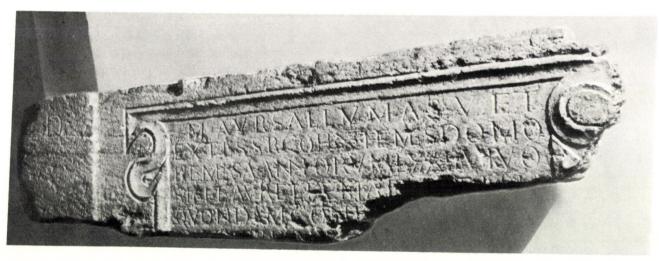
## REMARKS:

Line 1: D. M: See remarks on Inscription No. 7.

Line 2: Barachae: from the biblical ברכה (I Chronicles, xii, 3), where it is a man's name. Its Greek form,  $B\alpha\varrho\alpha\chi\sigma\varsigma$ , also appears as a man's name (H. Wuthnow: op. cit., 33). Later the name was usually given to women. In the 15th century it occurs in Palermo as a man's name: Bracha Sacerdotus—Berakha ha-Kohen (E. Ashtor: HUCA, L, 1979, 246). See J. Nacht: ממלי ("blessed") and its Latin equivalent, Benedicta, also occur in inscriptions (Frey: CIJ, I, 338, No. 459; 572, No. 70\*). E. Mahler erroneously read Baracea ( $A\acute{E}$ , XXV, 1905, 226), and so the inscription was not classed as Jewish.

## SECOND HALF OF THE 3RD CENTURY

The upper fragment of the façade of a sarcophagus. M. Aurelius Sallumas originating from Emesa and a veteran of the Emesa regiment, raised it in memory of himself, his mother Aurelia and his former wife. The Jewish origin of the veteran military clerk is indicated by his biblical name.



Inscription 6

6.

 $\mathbf{D}$ .

M· AVR· SALLVMAS· VET EX· TESSR· COH· (X) HEMES· DOMO HEMESA· ANNORVM· LXXXII VIVO

SIBI · ET · AVRELIAE MAT . . . . T . . . . QVONDAM CONI . . .

....NV....

D(is) [M](anibus)

M. Aur. Sallumas vet. ex tess(e)r(ario) coh. (mill.) Hemes(enorum) domo Hemesa annorum LXXXII vivo

sibi et Aureliae mat[ri]... [e]t.... quondam coni(ugi)...

.... nv ....

To the gods [of death]
M. Aur. Sallumas, a veteran military clerk
of the Emesa regiment, of Emesan
origin, 82 years old, for himself
in his lifetime and for his moth[er], Aurelia...[an]d
to his former wife...

.....

Discovered c. 1874, in the vineyard of Gáspár Farkas at Dunapentele. Height: 40 cm; width: 150 cm; thickness: 12 cm. Now in the Hungarian National Museum. Inventory No. 154/1874,4.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: F. Rómer: *AK*, X, 1876, 45–6, No. XXXV; T. Ortvay: *AK*, 123, No. 20; *CIL*, III, 10318; F. Fülep: *Intercisa*, I, 250, No. 133; in the German edition: 298–9, No. 133; A. Scheiber: *JQR*, NS, XLV, 1954–5, 197.

References: J. Hampel: AÉ, XXVI, 1906, 223, 224; G. Radan: AAH, XXV, 1973, 272.

Photographs: *Intercisa*, I, Plate LII, Fig. 3; *JQR*, NS, XLV, 1954–5, Fig. 4 between pp. 196 and 197.

Line 1: D. [M.]: see remarks on Inscription 7.

Line 2: Sallumas: the name Sallum was given to several biblical characters (Gesenius and Buhl: Hebräisches und Aramäisches Handwörterbuch über das Alte Testament, Leipzig, 1921, 831). It also occurs in the Aramaic papyri of Elephantine (E.G. Kraeling: The Brooklyn Museum Aramaic Papyri, New Haven, 1953, 307). So the identification with the name Salmas is incorrect (A. Kerényi: A dáciai személynevek (Dacian personal names), Bp., 1941, 187, No. 2168).<sup>41</sup>

## SIKLÓS

The gravestone itself is missing, but the text was written down by a humanist who lived at the time of King Matthias and is referred to as Antiquus in his work: *Monumenta in Ungaria reperta ex codice Venetorum legati*. The work has survived in four codices. In it the author mentions Soklos [sic] as the place of discovery. According to S. Krausz, the stone could have come from the main camp at Aquincum, as the author mentions it among inscriptions from Tétény and Solymár,<sup>42</sup> and so Soklos should be looked for somewhere in that region. Gy. Gábor identifies the place with Siklós.<sup>43</sup>

The latter supposition seems the more probable. Pécs (Sopianae) was an important traffic junction in Roman times, one through which the road from Eszék (Mursa) to Szombathely (Savaria) led. The environs of Pécs itself was a Roman settlement, although it gained significance only later. Ammianus Marcellinus reports that the Carpathian people who had been rounded up on the eastern slope of the Carpathian Mountains and admitted into the Empire were resettled here under Diocletian. He remarks that the resettlement was to provide a better defence for the province, 44 and the cultivation of the many large estates also called for labour. 45 The stone the humanist writer saw might have been dragged away from Pécs, but it might have originated from Siklós itself, which also has Roman relics: a late Roman stone sarcophagus contained in the fortifications to the gate of Siklós Castle along with three octagonal stone shafts. As local finds they bear out the fact that Siklós was inhabited during Roman times. Perhaps the location of Serena, mentioned by Anonymus, should also be sought here, since the main road towards Pécs passed through. 46

### **BEGINNING OF THE 3RD CENTURY**

D·M
SEPTIM(I)AE·MARIAE
IVDEAE·QVAE VIXIT
ANNIS·XVII·ACTIA
SABINILLA·MATER

D(is) M(anibus) Septim(i)ae Mariae Jud(a)eae quae vixit annis XVIII Actia Sabinilla mater

To the gods of death. To Septim(i)a Maria, a Jewess who lived 18 years, Actia

5 Sabinilla, her mother.

Dimensions unknown.

The stone has not survived, and is known only from a literary source.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: Antiquus: Monumenta in Ungaria reperta ex codice Venetorum legati, No. 30; CIL, III, 3688; S. Krausz: IMIT Évkönyve, 1902, 295–8; J. Oehler: MGWJ, LIII, 1909, 449, No. 210; Frey: CIJ, I, 490, No. 678; J. Schweitzer: A pécsi izraelita hitközség története (History of the Jews in Pécs), Bp., 1966, 11; G. Radan: AAH, XXV, 1973, 273.

References: Gy. Gábor: *IMIT Évkönyve*, 1931, 149-51; A. Alföldi: *Budapest az ókorban* (Budapest in antiquity), I, Bp., 1942, 316.

No photograph exists.





Amulet

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: "D. M." is rare in Jewish inscriptions; here it is an automatic adoption of the petrified pagan form, but it is also possible that a pagan mother erected the gravestone to her Jewish daughter.

Line 2: Septim(i)ae: in all previous text publications it is given as Septimae, which is incorrect. It refers to the rule of Septimius Severus (193–211).

Same line: Maria: the Graeco-Latin transcription of the Hebrew מרים. It appears as Μαρέα (B. Lifshitz: Corpus of Jewish Inscriptions par Frey, I, New York, 1975, Prolegomenon 78, No. 694b). It also figures in the forms Μαριαμ (F. Preisigke: op. cit., 523) and Μαριαμη (H. Wuthnow: op. cit., 73).

Line 5: Sabinilla: Oehler erroneously writes Sabillinea.

# **PÉCS**

# (Sopianae)

In 1982 the museologist Zsuzsa Katona Győr discovered a late Roman cemetery in Pécs.

## **RING**

## 4TH CENTURY

In the 92nd grave she found a sea-blue glass ring, with a seven-branched Menorah protruding on the top. The presence of the Jews is thus demonstrable at this point of the above described route too. The missing link has been discovered. We present its description and photograph with the permission of the discoverer.

Discovered in 1982 on the site of 3 Székesfehérvár utca, Pécs.

Height: 21 mm; diameter of the ring: 22 mm; diameter of the top: 11 mm; height of the Menorah: 8 mm.

Now in the Janus Pannonius Museum, Pécs.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Reference: Zs. Katona Győr: MIOK Évkönyve (MIOK Yearbook) 1983/84 (in print).



Ring

# **DOMBÓVÁR**

In February 1968, a brick grave dating from the Roman period was found to the left of Highway 61 in Dombóvár. The finds have been taken to the Béri Balogh Ádám Museum in Szekszárd. The excavations were led by Mária M. Albeker, who reported on them in a valuable study.<sup>47</sup>

### **AMULET**

## END OF THE 4TH CENTURY

In the third grave there lay the skeleton of a child, with a lead amulet beside it. The obverse of the amulet is decorated with a line of dots running around the edge. In the middle there is an angular three-legged Menorah, with a shofar to the right and a lulab to the left. The border ornament on the reverse corresponds to that on the obverse. The surface is badly damaged, but two spread palm leaves can be distinguished.

The object is undoubtedly a Jewish relic. The territory lies along the road from Pécs (Sopianae) through Sárvár (Tricciana) to Győr (Arrabona). It dates from between 375 and 380. No previous traces of Jews had been found in the neighbourhood.

Discovered in 1968 in Dombóvár.

Diameter: 3.1 cm; thickness: 0.1 cm.

Now in the Béri Balogh Ádám Museum, Szekszárd.

Inventory No. 77. 65. 4.

#### LITERATURE:

References: E. Thomas: op. cit., 24; M.M. Albeker: 'Késő rómaikori temető Dombóváron' (The late Roman cemetery at Dombóvár), AÉ, CV, 1978, 66, 75; A. Scheiber: 'A zsidók újabb nyomai Pannoniában' (Recent traces of the Jews in Pannonia), ÚÉ, XXXIV, 1979, No. 19; idem: Yigael Yadin Jubilee Volume. Oxford, 1982, 495; J. Schweitzer-M. Szilágyi: A Tolna megyei zsidók története (History of the Jews in Tolna County), Budapest, 1982, 9.

Photographs: E. Thomas: op. cit., 24; AÉ, CV, 1978, 73; Yigael Yadin Jubilee Volume, 498.



Lucern

### **SZOMBATHELY**

(Savaria)

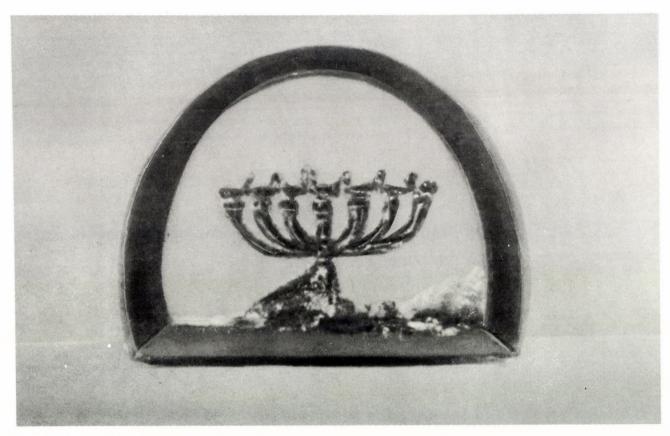
On the site of Szombathely, there was a Roman settlement of an urban character called Savaria. The amber road ran across the western part of Pannonia and was long known to the traders of northern Italy. Amber reached the ancient world along that route through barter trading for industrial goods. The road started from Aquileia, and linked the Baltic Sea and the source of the Vistula with Italy. After the conquest of Pannonia, it became the principal military road for the Roman troops. As early as the first half of the 1st century A.D. Roman settlements were set up along it, at Emona (Ljubljana), Poetovio (Ptuj), Scarbantia (Sopron) and Carnuntum (Deutschaltenburg). In the middle of the 1st century, Savaria (Szombathely) joined the line; it may have taken its name from the river Savarus. 48 Savaria steadily grew into one of the centres for trade radiating northwards from Italy. From the end of the 3rd century it was the capital of Pannonia Prima, and the seat of the praeses, the governor of the province. Syrian traders and veteran soldiers of Syrian extraction appeared here around that time, and introduced the worship of the Syrian Iuppiter Dolichenus to the town. The Isis cult is also linked with the immigration of eastern people, an occurrence tellingly documented by the Isis temple (Iseum) which has been excavated here.

Jews must have come to the town among the Syrians, and their presence is demonstrated by two relics which we mention here for the sake of completeness, although neither bears an inscription.

#### **LUCERN**

The first object is a lucern made of fired red clay. The disc of its cover displays a seven-branched Menorah in bas relief, with palm branches (lulabs) to the right and left. It conforms with the type of lucern common in the 2nd and 3rd centuries.<sup>49</sup>

Discovered in Szombathely at an unknown date. Height: 11 cm; width: 8 cm; thickness: 4 cm. Now in the Savaria Museum at Szombathely. Inventory No. 26.



Gem

#### LITERATURE:

References: S. Büchler: A zsidók története Budapesten (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 13; Gy. Gábor: IMIT Évkönyve, 1931, 153–4; D. Iványi: A pannoniai mécsesek (Die Pannonischen Lampen—The Pannonian Lucernae), Bp., 1935, 106, No. 986; S. Büchler: MéJ, XXV, 1935, 207; Frey: CIJ, I, 490; L. Nagy: 'Pannonia Sacra' in Szent István-Emlékkönyv (St.Stephen memorial volume), I, Bp., 1938, 96–7; N. Katzburg: Hungarian Jewish Historiography (in Hebrew), Jerusalem, 1957, 24; E.B. Thomas: 'Savaria Christiana'. A 200 éves Szombathelyi Egyházmegye Emlékkönyve (Memorial volume for the 200th anniversary of the Diocese of Szombathely), Szombathely, 1977, 47; idem: Pannonia, V, 1977, Nos. 3–4, 24.

Photographs: IMIT Évkönyve, 1931, 153; Die Pannonischen Lampen. Tafeln, Bp., 1935, XL, 5; Szent István-Emlékkönyv, I, Bp., 1938, 97; Ararát Évkönyv...az 1939...évre, Bp., 1939, 90 (with faulty inscription); Savaria Christiana, 48; Pannonia, 25; The Archaeology of Roman Pannonia, Bp., 1980, CXXXV. 2.

#### **GEM**

The second object is a gem of blue stone, showing a Menorah in bas-relief. Even the flames can be seen on top of the branches.

Discovered in Szombathely at an unknown date.

Height: 1.5 cm; width: 1.2 cm; thickness: ?

It disappeared from the Savaria Museum in Szombathely after 1944.

Inventory No. 5476485.

#### LITERATURE:

References: Gy. Gábor: *IMIT Évkönyve*, 1931, 154; N. Katzburg: *Hungarian Jewish Historiography* (in Hebrew), Jerusalem, 1957, 24; E.B. Thomas: 'Savaria Christiana,' 47; *idem: Pannonia*, 24.

Photographs: IMIT Évkönyve, 1931, 154; Savaria Christiana, 47.

# OSIJEK-ESZÉK

(Mursa)

In the second half of the 2nd century A.D. Mursa was the seat of the procurator of Pannonia Inferior. Under the Severus dynasty a good many Syrian tradesmen went to Mursa, where they spread their oriental cults (M. Bulat and D. Pinterović: Osječki Zbornik, XIII, 1971, 115).



Inscription 8

In the 1930s, a stone slab broken into two pieces was found in Osijek. According to the reading of H. Comfort, a professor of Haveford College, the problematic word fragment seucham can be completed as proseucham. This allows one to suppose that during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian there was a Jewish community in Mursa: by the beginning of the 3rd century their synagogue was in decay and had to be reconstructed. G. Radan has two reservations about this theory: "We have to mention that the meaning of the word proseucha does not relate unequivocally to synagogues... Besides this it is not likely that a Jewish community existed under Hadrian."

"Eine kleine DEO AETERNO von dem Freigelassenen Eutych(ianus) geweihte Ara... wurde auf einem Platz schon ausserhalb der Mauern des einstigen Mursa gefunden" (D. Pinterović: *Mursa*, Osijek, 1978, 205, XXX, 1.).

8.

### SECOND HALF OF THE 2ND CENTURY

PP RTINACIS AUGG RORUM NDUS SEUCHAM STATE LO

[restituit]

[Pro salute im]p(eratorum)
[L(ucii) Sept(imii) Severi Pe]rtinacis,
[et M(arci) Aur(elii) Antonini] Aug(ustorum)
[et Iuliae Aug(ustae) matris cast]rorum
..... [Secu]ndus
[.... pro]seucham
[Judaeorum? vetu]state
[collapsam a so]lo



Brick with Jewish symbols

[For the salvation of the em]perors
[Lucius Septimius Severus Pe]rtinax
[and Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, the] Augusti
[and Iulia Augusta mother of the cam]ps
....[Secu]ndus
[.... the Sy]nagogue [of the Jews?]
[fallen from] age
..... [from the foun]dations
[has restored]

5

Height: 85 cm; width: 62 cm; thickness: 11 cm. Now in the Museum of Slavonia, Osijek. No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Pinterović: 'Da li je u rimskoj koloniji Mursi postojala sinagoga?', Osječki Zbornik, IX-X, 1965, 61-74; G. Radan: AAH, XXXV, 1973, 266-67; Corpus of Jewish Inscriptions par Frey, I, ed. B. Lifshitz, New York, 1975, Prolegomenon: 60-61, No. 678a; D. Pinterović: Mursa i njeno područje u antičko doba. Mursa und sein Raum in der Zeit der Antike, Osijek, 1978, 63-64. (Reviewed by J. Fitz: Alba Regia, XVIII, Székesfehérvár, 1980, 346.).

References: D. Pinterović: Mursa, Osijek, 1978, 205.

Photographs: Osječki Zbornik, IX-X, 1965, 75; AAH, XXV, 1973, 267; Mursa, Plate XIII. 1.

# ČELAREVO- CSÉB

(Ciglana)

Since 1972, excavations have been going on along the southern Pannonian reach of the Danube at Ciglana, near the village of Čelarevo, 20 km from Novi Sad (Újvidék). There 263 graves have been excavated, dating from the end of the 8th century and the beginning of the 9th. Fragments of more than 80 Roman bricks have been found in the graves, with Jewish symbols: Menorahs, etrogs, candle-snuffers and ash collectors. Those may have come from the late Roman cemetery.

One fragment bears a Hebrew text, which Professor J. Naveh reads as follows:



Inscription 9

#### END OF THE 4TH CENTURY

יהדה וי Jehuda, oh!

The stone stood over the grave of Jehuda.

Discovered at Ciglana after 1972. Now in the Novi Sad Museum. Inventory No. 110.

## LITERATURE:

References: E. Thomas: *Pannonia*, V, 1977, Nos. 3-4, 24; R. Bunardžić: 'Report on the protective archaeological excavation of the medieval necropolis at the "Ciglana" locality near Čelarevo', *Grada za proučavanje spomenika kulture Vojvodine*, VIII-IX, Novi Sad, 1978-79, 53; *Exhibition. Menoroth from Čelarevo*, Beograd, 1980; A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXXVI, 1981, No. 6; *idem: Yigael Yadin Jubilee Volume*, Oxford, 1982, 495-496.

Photographs: Exhibition, 153, t. XXVII, 2; Yigael Yadin Jubilee Volume, 499.

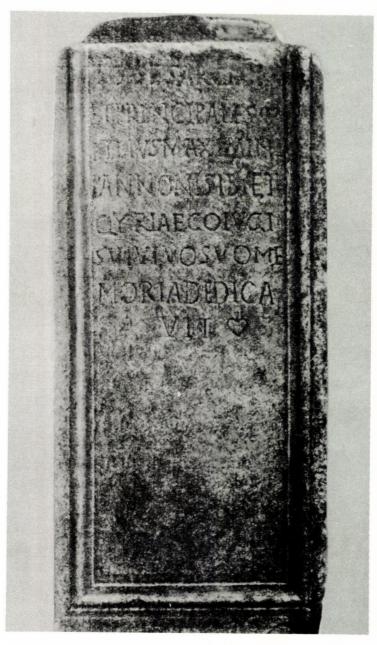
#### **GIGEN**

(Oescus)

A gravestone found in Oescus (today Gigen), a town in Moesia Inferior (Bulgaria), also has a bearing on the Pannonian Jews. The place was an urban settlement in Roman times. Trajan made it a military seat with the name of Colonia Ulpia Oescus. It was a region rich in agricultural produce, and was known for its exports. Traders were able to make use of the Danube for navigation. The town must have possessed all the institutions of urban administration usual for the *colonia*.

The Jews may have settled in Moesia even in Trajan's time, and the first Jewish community may have been founded at Nicopolis, after the victory over the Dacians (105–107 A.D.). As this inscription bears out, there was a Jewish community at Oescus as well.

The inscription speaks of one Joses, who erected a sepulchral monument to his wife Kyria and to himself. Joses was an *archisynagogus*, i.e. chairman of the community and a *principalis*. The latter title denotes a high post either in the army or the town administration. The latter explanation seems the more probable, as a military dignitary could hardly have been head of the synagogue.



Inscription 10

So he held a double office, as Cosmius did in Intercisa, who was at once archisynagogus Judaeorum and praepositus stationis (Inscription 3). The father of Joses was Maximinus Pannonus,50 which indicates he originated from Pannonia. One would suppose he was named Maximinus after the Emperor Maximinus Thrax (235–238), a frequent practice among the Jews. The Emperor was born near where the inscription was found, and for a time lived in Pannonia. Accordingly Joses's father was born between 235 and 238 in Pannonia, and from there moved to Moesia Inferior, where he settled in Oescus. The father has a Latin name, the son a Hebrew one (with a Greek ending). According to M. Schwabe, this may indicate that the son was born in Moesia, as Pannonia was more Romanized than the eastern provinces of the Balkans.<sup>51</sup> This is contradicted by the Aquincum stone already discussed (No. 2), where something similar occurs: the father's name is Latin, the son's Hebrew. The Greek name of Joses's wife  $(Kv\rho i\alpha)$ , and the last three letters in the word archisynagogos, which are written in Greek, prove that Greek influence had reached Moesia, partly from the seacoast to the east and partly from Macedonia to the south. It also bears witness to the bilingualism of the Jews (Latin and Greek) and their dual culture, evident also from the stones from Esztergom (No. 1) and Aquincum (No. 2).

The gravestone Maximinus's son Joses erected for his wife may have been carved in the first half of the 4th century. The father must certainly be counted as a Pannonian Jew.

The inscription takes up the upper part of the stone; the larger, lower part is empty. 52

10.

## FIRST HALF OF THE 4TH CENTURY

IOSES ARCISINA
ET PRINCIPALES
FILIVS MAXIMINI
PANNONI SIBI ET
QVRIAE COIVGI
SVI VIVO SVO ME
MORIA DEDICA
VIT

Ioses arcisina[go]γος et principales filius Maximini Pannoni sibi et Qyriae co(n)iugi sui vivo suo me moria dedica vit

Joses, the president of the synagogue and principalis, the son of Maximinus of Pannonia, has for himself and for his wife, Qyria, consecrated a memorial during his own lifetime.

Discovered before 1906 in Gigen (Bulgaria). Height: 96 cm; width: 40 cm; thickness: 34 cm. Now in the Sofia Archaeological Museum. No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: S. Mézan: Jüdisches Lexikon, IV, Berlin, 1930, 619; M. Schwabe: ידיעות החברה העברית לחקירת ארץ ישראל ועתיקותיה, II, 1935, Nos. 3–4, 19–25; Frey: CIJ, I, 492, No. 681; A. Dobó: Inscriptiones extra fines Pannoniae Daciaeque repertae ad res earundem provinciarum pertinentes, Bp., 1940, 40, No. 196; G. Radan: AAH, XXV, 1973, 273–4; E. B. Thomas: Pannonia, V, 1977, Nos. 3–4, 24.

References: S. Mézan: Enc. Jud., IV, Berlin, 1929, 1190; A. Gráf: IMIT Évkönyve, 1939, 246; Marko S. Mirč: Jevrejski Almanah, 1957–1958, Beograd, [1957], 50; V. Tamir: Bulgaria and Her Jews, New York, 1979, 3–4.

Photographs: Enc. Jud., VII, Berlin, 1931, 615; AAH, XXV, 1973, 274, Fig. 8; Pannonia, V, 1977, Nos. 3-4, 24; V. Tamir: op. cit., in the appendix after p. 158.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: Ioses: the Talmudic 'io' with the Greek ending (' $I\omega\sigma\eta\varsigma$ ). See F. Preisigke: op. cit., 522; H. Wuthnow: op. cit., 60. It also appears in the form  $I\omega\sigma\eta$ , which is an exact Greek transcription of the Hebrew 'Io' (Frey: CIJ, II, 6, No. 735).

Same line: arcisina [go] $\gamma o \varsigma$ : see remark on Inscription No. 3. A. Dobó reads it as "... io Sesarcinao", and S. Mézan as "Arcisinao". The last three letters are by a later hand. See B. Lifshitz: *Corpus of Jewish Inscriptions par Frey*, New York, 1975, Prolegomenon: 63, No. 681.

Line 2: principales: would correctly be "principalis".

Line 3: Maximini: the name Maximinus does not feature in other Jewish inscriptions, although its female form, Maximina, occurs once (H.W. Beyer and H. Lietzmann: *Die jüdische Katakombe der Villa Torlonia in Rom*, Berlin-Leipzig, 1930, 38, No. 51; Frey: *CIJ*, I, 42, No. 70).

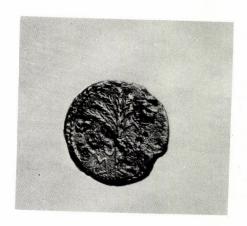
Line 5: Qyriae: a transcription of the Greek Κυρία (lady) into Latin letters. It was obviously taken from the Greek translation of the Aramaic words מרחה, מרה, במה, באום. Lady Νεβία Κυρία features in a Roman catacomb (Beyer and Lietzmann: op. cit., 35, No. 41; Frey: CIJ, I, 32, No. 47). It also occurs as an adjective, e.g. קירא מרים, and its Latin text: Kyra Maries (Frey: CIJ, I, 474–5, No. 661; F. Cantera and J.M. Millás: Las Inscripciones Hebraicas de España, Madrid, 1956, 270–3, No. 198). Most recently it emerged in Bet Shearim as און מורה מוה (N. Avigad: Israel Exploration Journal, IX, 1959, 209). On some Israeli mosaic flagstones: קירה מגה (J. Naveh: על פסיפס ואבן, Jerusalem-Tel Aviv, 1978, 54, No. 32; 60, No. 34). In Ketubbot (M. A. Friedman: Jewish Marriage in Palestine, I, Tel Aviv–New York, 1980, 116).

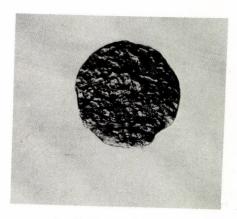
Line 6: sui: correctly "suae".

Same line: suo: correctly "se".

Line 7: memoria: correctly "memoriam".

Line 8: vit: is followed by an ornament to fill up the line, in the shape of a heart or a leaf.





Bar Kochba coin 4/1940-17

# **SZŐNY**

# (Brigetio)

In 1940, a Bar Kochba coin was retrieved from a grave under a Roman villa some 30 metres from the camp-wall, on the eastern side of the legionary camp at Brigetio (today Szőny).<sup>53</sup> After the joint cremation of several bodies, the ashes and objects had been put into this grave, where the remaining heat somewhat melted the medal. It is now preserved in the Hungarian National Museum (Inventory No. 4/1940–17). It is identical with coin 204/a described by Reifenberg.<sup>54</sup>

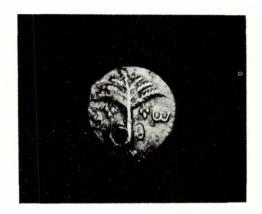
The medal does not prove there was a Jewish settlement here, but it is important for Jewish history. It bears out that a detachment of the Legio I Adiutrix stationed in Brigetio took part in the war against Bar Kochba between 132 and 135. One of the legionaries might have brought it from there as a keepsake or amulet.

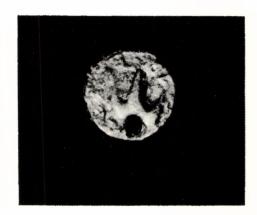
Forty years ago, B. Kohlbach presented some Jewish coins in the Hungarian National Museum, eight Bar Kochba coins among them.<sup>55</sup> His catalogue gives no provenance for the individual pieces. It has occurred to me that some of them may have come from Pannonia.

One of my students, I. Kertész, has investigated the accession journal at my request, and states that one of the pieces is certainly of Hungarian origin. The place where the coin bearing the location mark 41/1892–16 was found was Ószőny. The obverse shows a vineleaf, with the inscription: "The 2nd year of Israel's freedom". The reverse has a palm, with two clusters hanging from it, and bearing the inscription: "Simon". It tallies with Item 200 in A. Reifenberg's book. 56 This means that so far two Bar Kochba coins have been found in Brigetio, which cannot be accidental.

Other information also indicates that the Pannonian legions took part in suppressing Bar Kochba's war of independence.

1. A gravestone has been found at Brigetio to the memory of the 34-year-old P. Aelius Mercator of Caesarea: "P. Ael. Mercatori immuni Caeriarensi" <sup>57</sup> (to be read Caesariensi). Although there were several Caesareas at that time, and there were Syrians in Brigetio (particularly from Emesa), on the basis of the above Bar Kochba coin one can assume the reference is to the Caesarea in Palestine. The person in question, who gained Roman citizenship during the time of Hadrian and therefore took the *gentilicium* Hadrian's, could have come from Palestine to Brigetio with the 1st Auxiliary Legion. Naturally there is nothing to prove he was a Jew.





Bar Kochba coin 41/1892-16



Gravestone of Aelius Silvanus in Aquincum



Stone pillar with the "cursus honorum" of Lucius Valerius Valerianus, Caesarea (Israel)

- 2. In the same way, a detachment of the Legio II Adiutrix of Aquincum could also have taken part in the campaign against Bar Kochba, as the following gravestone in Aquincum shows: 58
- "D(is) M(anibus) Ael(io) Silvano (centurio) leg(ionis) II adi(utricis) domo Syria Palaestina Coloniae Capitolina(e) stip(endiorum) LXI qui vixit an(nos) LXXXVI Ael(ia) Silvana filia et heres patri c[ar]issi(mo) per Ael(ium) Filoquir[um? f. c.]."

The translation is as follows:

"To the death gods of Aelius Silvanus, centurion of the 2nd Auxiliary Legion, who is a native of Syria-Palestine, Colonia Capitolina, served 61 years, and lived for 86 years, Aelia Silvana, his daughter and heiress [had this sepulchral monument made] to her dearest father, by Aelius Filoquir[us?]..."

Silvanus originated from Jerusalem (which after 135 was called Aelia Capitolina) and also took his name after Hadrian. He was obviously granted Roman citizenship by Hadrian or during his reign, after the defeat of the Bar Kochba revolt as a reward for having joined the Legio II Adiutrix when it was camping in Palestine. With that legion he went to Aquincum, where he then spent his long military service. Filoquirus was his slave, and later his *libertus* (freedman), whom he might have brought along with him from his own country.

- 3. Two of Hadrian's Cistophorus coins have been found in Hungary. These too may have been brought to Pannonia by legionaries as souvenirs after the successful conclusion of the hostilities against Bar Kochba, <sup>59</sup> since the coins only circulated in Asia Minor and neighbouring provinces, and had no purchasing power elsewhere.
- 4. Recently a sarcophagus has been found in the courtyard of the Óbuda synagogue. The inscription, in Greek and Latin, commemorates a man from Jerusalem. The sarcophagus is now in the Aquincum Museum, and a publication of the text is being prepared by Tibor Nagy. See I. Bilkei: 'Die griechischen Inschriften des römischen Ungarns', Alba Regia. Annales Musei Stephani Regis, XVII, Székesfehérvár, 1979. 42.
- 5. The data listed so far refer to relics found in Hungary. But an inscription found in Samaria bears out that several *vexillationes* from Upper Pannonia were really in Palestine around that time:
- "I. o. m. mil(ites) v[e]xi[l(lationis)] coh(ortium) Pa(nnoniae) sup(erioris) cives Sisc(ii) <et \rangle Varcian(i) et Latobici sacrum fecer(unt)."60

These units erected a votive tablet to Iuppiter Optimus Maximus, obviously in thanksgiving for a narrow escape during the fighting.

It was known from earlier research that Pannonian units took part in suppressing Bar Kochba's war of independence.<sup>61</sup> The data above tend to magnify the part they played and provide added proof of it. They also indicate that the war of independence had indeed shaken the Roman world if it had been necessary to call in reserves from so distant a province as Pannonia. A march of that length would have involved much trouble and time. If the Emperor's express messenger took the message requesting help to Pannonia at the beginning of the winter, the troops could not have arrived there sooner than the beginning of April.<sup>62</sup> Of course, the request for help from so distant a province was also made possible by the relative calm in Pannonia, from which forces could safely be withdrawn.

In 1961, A. Negev discovered a fragment from a bluish marble pillar among the ruins of a Byzantine monastery in Caesarea. The pillar had been put to secondary use. It has now been transferred to the Archaeological Department of the Israeli Museum (No. 174).

The fragment has three inscriptions, two in Latin and one in Greek. The one of interest for us is the oldest, containing 17 lines in Latin and is almost completely intact. It was published by M. Avi-Yonah.<sup>63</sup>

The inscription is a *cursus honorum*, bearing out that the career of Lucius Valerius Valerianus began in Pannonia after 176, and that in the time of Caracalla he appeared as *praepositus* of Syria-Palestine.

It can be claimed that these were the earliest contacts between the inhabitans of Pannonia and Palestine, <sup>64</sup> long preceding the appearance of Jews in the region. <sup>65</sup>

#### LITERATURE:

A. Scheiber: Yitzhak F. Baer Jubilee Volume, Jerusalem, 1960, 99–101; idem: ÚÉ, XXXIV, 1979, No. 19; idem: The Bar-Kokhva Revolt, ed. A. Oppenheimer, Jerusalem, 1980, 111–13; idem: Yigael Yadin Jubilee Volume, Oxford, 1982, 496–497, 499.

No Jewish relics have been found in Dacia. Data which have been referred to are not authentic.<sup>66</sup> Nevertheless, certain names (Barsimsus, Guras, Habib[is], Salmas)<sup>67</sup> call for thorough research work.<sup>68</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> E. Ferenczy: A magyar föld népeinek története a honfoglalásig (History of the peoples of the land of Hungary up until the Hungarian conquest), Bp., 1958, 65–83; A. Mócsy: Pannonia and Upper Moesia. A History of the Middle Danube Provinces of the Roman Empire, London-Boston, 1974.
- <sup>2</sup> Making use of the present chapter of this book, a comprehensive picture of Pannonia's Jewish relations is given by Z. Kádár: 'Die kleinasiatisch-syrischen Kulte zur Römerzeit in Ungarn' in Études préliminaires aux religions orientales dans l'Empire Romain, II, Leiden, 1962; A. Scheiber: REJ, CXXII, 1963, 441-2; idem: DLZ, LXXXVI, 1965, 582-4; idem: The World History of the Jewish People. The Dark Ages, Tel Aviv, 1966, 313-4, 441; G. Radan: 'Comments on the History of Jews in Pannonia', AAH, XXV, 1973, 265-278; E. Thomas: 'Eins ist der Gott!' Über jüdische Denkmäler der Römerzeit in Pannonien', Pannonia, V, 1977, Nos. 3-4, 21-4; idem: 'Das frühe Christentum in Pannonien im Lichte der archäologischen Funde', Severin: Zwischen Römerzeit und Völkerwanderung, Linz, 1982, 255-293.
- <sup>3</sup> I. Elbogen: Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland, Berlin, 1935, 11-6; M. Lowenthal: The Jews of Germany, Philadelphia, 1944, 1-10; J.B. Frey: Corpus Inscriptionum Judaicarum, I, Rome-Paris, 1936, 485-6, Nos. 673-674.
- <sup>4</sup> J. Fitz: 'Septimius Severus pannóniai látogatása i.u. 202-ben' (Septimius Severus's visit to Pannonia in 202 A.D.), AÉ, LXXXV, 1958, 169.
- <sup>5</sup> L. Nagy: 'Pannonia Sacra', Szent István-Emlékkönyv (St. Stephen memorial volume), I, Bp., 1938, 139.
- <sup>6</sup> J. Oehler: 'Epigraphische Beiträge zur Geschichte des Judentums', MGWJ, LIII, 1909,
   528; E. Condurachi: REJ, CI, 1937, 88–90; A. Gráf: IMIT Évkönyve (IMIT Yearbook), 1939, 240;
   Gy. Balázs: מבוא לחקירת עקבותיה החדשים של התישבות היהודים בפנוניה, Semitic Studies in Memory of Immanuel Löw, Bp., 1947, Hebrew part: 6.
- <sup>7</sup> On the correct form of the name see: B. Kuzsinszky: *Klebelsberg-Emlékkönyv* (Jubilee volume for Klebelsberg), Bp., 1925, 107–19.
  - <sup>8</sup> D. Dercsényi and L. Zolnay: Esztergom, Bp., 1956, 6.
  - 9 Ibid., 7.
  - 10 J. Szilágyi: Aquincum, Bp., 1956, 90.
  - 11 Ibid., 46.
  - 12 K. Wolff: EPhK, II, 1878, 53.
  - <sup>13</sup> R. Fröhlich: AÉ, XI, 1891, 232–3, No. 18.
  - 14 S. Krausz: IMIT Évkönyve, 1904, 31.
  - 15 A. Gráf: IMIT Évkönyve, 1939, 242.
  - 16 J. Szilágyi: op. cit., 46, 92.
  - <sup>17</sup> B. Kanael: Die Kunst der antiken Synagoge, Munich-Frankfurt am Main, 1961, 70.
  - 18 A. Scheiber: AT, VIII, 1961, 316.
- <sup>19</sup> CIL, III, 10611; J. Oehler: MGWJ, LIII, 1909, 449, No. 211; J.-B. Frey: CIJ, I, Rome-Paris, 1936, 487-8, No. 675; E.R. Goodenough: 'The Menorah among Jews of the Roman World', HUCA, XXIII, 2, 1950-51, 456, Note 24.
- <sup>20</sup> E. Munkácsi: Semitic Studies in Memory of Immanuel Löw, Bp., 1947, Hebrew part: 125–46. Depiction of the Menorah appears at the end of the period of the Maccabean dynasty. See B. Kanael: 'Notes on Jewish Art in the Period of the Second Temple', The Annual of Leeds University Oriental Society, I, 1958–9, Leiden, 1959, 65.

- <sup>21</sup> The text was published by Frey: *CIJ*, I, 567–8, No. 64\*. J. Oehler (*MGWJ*, LIII, 1909, 449, No. 211) erroneously added the original text to the inscription with the Jewish bearing.
  - <sup>22</sup> J. Szilágyi: Intercisa, I, Bp., 1954, VIII.
  - <sup>23</sup> L. Barkóczi: *Intercisa*, I, Bp., 1954, 37.
- <sup>24</sup> Recent research assumes that the Cohors I Alpinorum equitata was not destroyed, because in 202 it continued to occupy the Kömlőd camp. The Cohors I milliaria Hemesenorum came to Intercisa in 184 as part of the reorganization carried out on the *limes*. See J. Fitz: 'Mikor került a Cohors I milliaria Hemesenorum Intercisába?' (When did the Cohors I milliaria Hemesenorum arrive in Intercisa?), AÉ, LXXXVI, 1959, 139–44.
- <sup>25</sup> S. Klein: *Jüdisch-Palästinisches Corpus Inscriptionum*, Vienna-Berlin, 1920, 81, No. 11; Frey: *CIJ*, II, 157-9, No. 972.
  - <sup>26</sup> בראשית רבתי, ed. Ch. Albeck, Jerusalem, 1940, 209.
  - <sup>27</sup> S. Lieberman: Greek in Jewish Palestine, New York, 1942, 11-2.
  - <sup>28</sup> S. Dubnow: Weltgeschichte des jüdischen Volkes, III, Berlin, 1926, 145.
  - <sup>29</sup> Frey: CIJ, I, 458, No. 640.
- <sup>30</sup> In 1958, 72 denari from the age of Septimius Severus was found in a pot in Felsődobos, in the northwestern corner of Fejér County. Eastern coins were hardly in use in the area, which shows their owner had brought them from the East. The Emesa impressions can be dated to 194–5. See J. Fitz: 'Septimius Severus-kori dénárlelet Mór-Felsődobosról' (A Denarius find from the period of Septimius Severus from Mór-Felsődobos), *Numizmatikai Közlöny*, LVIII–LIX, 1959–60, 16–22.
- <sup>31</sup> M. Schwabe: Bulletin of the Jewish Palestine Exploration Society, II, 1935, Nos. 3–4, 24, Note 16.
- <sup>32</sup> S. Krausz: *IMIT Évkönyve*, 1902, 303. Later he changed his opinion (*Synagogale Altertümer*, Berlin-Vienna, 1922, 260).
  - 33 J. Hampel: AÉ, XXVI, 1906, 238.
- <sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, 239. At first Sándor Büchler also doubted whether the inscription was Jewish (*A zsidók története Budapesten* (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 13), but later he changed his opinion (*MéJ*, XXV, 1935, 207).
  - 35 A. Gráf: IMIT Évkönyve, 1939, 241.
  - <sup>36</sup> On the meaning of synagogue cf. I. Sonne: Tarbiz, XXVII, 1957-8, 557-9.
- <sup>37</sup> S. Klein: 'Neues zum Fremdenhaus der Synagoge', MGWJ, LXXVII, 1933, 81–4; Frey: CIJ, I, 504–7, No. 694; A. Marmorstein: 'The Synagogue of Claudius Tiberius Polycharmus in Stobi', JQR, NS, XXVII, 1936–7, 373–84. Information on the latest research results can be expected from the continuation of the text publication by Viktor Hoffiller and Balduin Saria (Antike Inschriften aus Jugoslavien, I, Zagreb, 1938). See M. Hengel: 'Die Synagogeinschrift von Stobi', ZNW, LVII, 1966, 145–83. Excavation is being continued at present. See D. Mano-Zissi: Recueil du Musée National, IX–X, Belgrade, 1979, 73–80; Ancient Synagogues Revealed, ed. L.I. Levine, Jerusalem, 1981, 167–70; J. Gutmann: Ancient Synagogues. The State of Research, Ann Arbor, 1981, 61.
- <sup>38</sup> D. Pinterović: 'Da li je u rimskoj koloniji Mursi postojala sinagoga?' Osječki Zbornik, IX-X, 1965, 61-75; M. Hengel: 'Proseuche und Synagoge'. Tradition und Glaube. Karl Georg Kuhn-Festschrift, Göttingen, 1971 (JJS, XXVII, 1976, 231); P. Wexler: REJ, CXL, 1981, 116-7.
- <sup>39</sup> A. and J. Šašel: Inscriptiones latinae quae in Iugoslavia inter annos MCMXL et MCMLX repertae et editae sunt, Ljubljana, 1963, 61–2, No. 131; R. Egger: 'Von Römern, Juden, Christen und Barbaren', Öst. Ak. der Wissenschaften, Phil.-Hist. Klasse, Sitzungsberichte, 247:3 (Wien, 1965).

- <sup>40</sup> P. Oliva: Pannonia and the Onset of Crisis in the Roman Empire, Prague, 1962, 342-3.
- <sup>40a</sup> See now Inscription 9.
- <sup>41</sup> The names Abbeus and Barsimia also occur in Intercisa, but they seem Syrian rather than Jewish (*Intercisa*, I, 210; 270, No. 341). On the former see H. Wuthnow: *op. cit.*, 6, on the latter: *ibid.*, 34.
- <sup>42</sup> S. Krausz: *IMIT Évkönyve*, 1902, 297; so does A. Alföldi: *Budapest az ókorban* (Budapest in antiquity), I, Bp., 1942, 316.
  - 43 Gy. Gábor: IMIT Évkönyve, 1931, 149-50.
- <sup>44</sup> D. Dercsényi and F. Pogány: *Pécs*, Bp., 1956, 10. Most recently, see D. Simonyi's excellent study: 'Pécs "Quinque ecclesiae" nevének eredetéről' (On the origin of the name "Quinque ecclesiae" for Pécs), *AT*, VI, 1959, 87–103.
  - <sup>45</sup> J. Dombay's article in the volume Baranya, ed. J. Kolta, Pécs, 1958, 50.
  - 46 A. Kovács: A siklósi vár (Siklós castle), Pécs, 1957, 6.
- <sup>47</sup> M. M. Albeker: 'Késő rómaikori temető Dombóváron' (The late Roman cemetery at Dombóvár),  $A\hat{E}$ , CV, 1978, 66–77.
- <sup>48</sup> Z. Kádár and L. Balla: Savaria, Bp., 1958, 5–6; L. Balla and Z. Kádár: 'Adatok Savaria (Szombathely) szíriai kapcsolatainak kérdéséhez' (Data on the matter of Savaria's [Szombathely's] Syrian contacts), AT, VI, 1959, 112–6; T. Szentléleky: A szombathelyi Isis-szentély (The temple of Isis at Szombathely), Bp., 1960, 26.
- 49 Z. Avneri: Rassegna Mensile di Israel, XXVIII, 1962, 466–8; V. Susmann: גרות־חרס מעוטרים, Jerusalem, 1972, 24. We do not consider the lucern found at Leányvár and now preserved in the Bratislava museum to be a Menorah (E. Katz: 'Židovská Ročenka, 1956–7, [Prague 1956] 56–62). In connection with Pozsony (Bratislava) there is a legend that the 14th Roman legion, on returning from Palestine, came into the Pozsony area and that many Jews arrived with them (S. Weingarten: שבטי ישראל בבית הנשיא, Tel Aviv, 1959, 74).
  - <sup>50</sup> The data are given erroneously in A. Gráf's article (IMIT Évkönyve, 1939, 246).
  - <sup>51</sup> M. Schwabe: Bulletin of the Jewish Palestine Exploration Society, II, 1935, Nos. 3-4, 25.
- <sup>52</sup> The Jewish relics from Oescus, including a stone showing a Menorah, are dealt with by V. Beshevliev: Annual...of the Jews in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, III, Sofia, 1968, 125-6, 207-8.
  - 53 L. Barkóczi: NK, LVI-LVII, 1957-8, 19.
- <sup>54</sup> A. Reifenberg: מטבעות היהודים, Jerusalem, 1947, 60; E. Damati: Israel Numismatic Journal, IV, 1980, 28, No. 4.
  - 55 B. Kohlbach: IMIT Évkönyve, 1936, 272-98.
  - 56 A. Reifenberg: op. cit., 60.
- <sup>57</sup> L. Barkóczi: Brigetio, Bp., 1951, 56, No. 95. L. Barkóczi and A. Mócsy: Die Römischen Inschriften Ungarns (RIU), II, Bp., 1976, 164, No. 506: "Weniger wahrscheinlich eine Verschreibung von Caesariensis."
- <sup>58</sup> V. Kuzsinszky: Aquincum. Ausgrabungen und Funde, Bp., 1934, 176, No. 285; J. Szilágyi: op. cit., 46, 117.
- <sup>59</sup> Maria R. Alföldi: 'Beiträge zur Frage der Cistophori Kaisers Hadrian', Folia Archaeologica, VIII, 1956, 89-95.
- 60 A. Alföldi: Századok, LXX, 1936, 27, Note 4; A. Dobó: Inscriptiones extra fines Pannoniae Daciaeque repertae ad res earundem provinciarum pertinentes (Diss. Pann. Ser. I, No. 1), Bp., 1940, 39, No. 189.
- <sup>61</sup> E. Ritterling: *PW-RE*, XII, 1925, 1287 squ; S. Jejwin: מלחמת בר־כוכבא, Jerusalem, 1946, 29–30, 82, 218; L. Kadman: *The Coins of Aelia Capitolina*, Jerusalem, 1956, 20.

- 62 S. Jejwin: op. cit., 82-3.
- <sup>63</sup> M. Avi-Yonah: Yediot Bahaqirat Eretz-Israel Weatiqoteha, XXX, 1966, 128–35; idem: IEJ, XVI, 1966, 135–41; A. Scheiber: AÉ, XCIV, 1967, 59–61; L. Balla: Acta Classica Universitatis Scientiarum Debreceniensis, III, 1967, 85–7.
- <sup>64</sup> A soldier from a legion stationed in Palestine (Legio X Fretensis) had a Syrian wife (Publia Surilla) living in Aquincum. See V. Kuzsinszky: *op. cit.*, Bp. 1934, 66; A. Alföldi: *Budapest az ókorban* (Budapest in antiquity), I, Bp., 1942, 316.
- 65 Gy. Balázs reports on questionable Pannonian Jewish inscriptions: Libanon, VIII, 1943, 75–7.
- <sup>66</sup> E. Abraham: History of the Jews of Transylvania (in Hebrew) I, New York, 1951, 16. Unfortunately, I was unable to get hold of M.A. Halevy's relevant articles (Curierul Israelit, 1936; Annuarul Evreilor din Romania, 1937/5698, 32–44). In C. Daicoviciu, who is usually referred to in this context, I have found no mention (Siebenbürgen im Altertum, Bucharest, 1943; Omagiu lui Constantin Daicoviciu, Bucharest, 1960, XV–XIX). See S. Sanie: 'Theos Hypsistos şi Iuppiter Exsuperantissimus în Dacia', Studii şi Cercetări de Istoria Veche şi Arheologie XXVIII, 1977, 135–42.
- <sup>67</sup> A. Kerényi: A dáciai személynevek (Dacian personal names), Bp., 1941, 183–9, Nos. 2131, 2154, 2168. See most recently M. Isidor: Revista Cultului Mozaic, XXIII, 1978, No. 420.
- <sup>68</sup> The Temesvár Museum has two Jewish coins. The first was coined during the first Jewish revolt (66–70). The "Samaritan inscription" naturally means an Old Hebrew inscription (*Történelmi és Régészeti Értesítő* (Historical and Archaeological Bulletin), VIII, Temesvár, 1882, 38). Based on the description, one can recognize even without a photograph the type presented by A. Reifenberg during a Judaea Capta coin (*Történelmi és Régészeti Értesítő*, VIII, Temesvár 1882, 32; A. Reifenberg: *op. cit.*, Plate XI). Both were donated to the Temesvár Museum; they were supposedly found locally, and thus allow one to draw conclusions on the composition and route of the Roman legions in Dacia.

# THE MIDDLE AGES



#### I. HEBREW LETTERS ON A KHAZAR RING

In the cemetery excavated at Ellend, near Pécs, Grave 128 yielded the skeleton of a woman and beside it a ring, which is now in the Janus Pannonius Museum in Pécs. The ring is ornamented with Hebrew letters.

11.

Square 1:	λ, 1
Square 5:	۵, Đ
Square 6:	<b>&gt;</b>
Square 8:	7, 1, 1
Square 9:	П, Э
Square 11:	ב, ש, ב

The find dates from the second half of the 11th century. The cemetery is near the villages of Nagykozár and Kiskozár. One would obviously conclude that the Hebrew letters became known here through the Khabars, who joined up with the Hungarians after rebelling against the Khazars, whose leaders were Jewish. "Summarizing what has been said so far, we are of the opinion that the Hebrew characters appearing in the archaeological material of Hungary from the 11th century can be traced back through the Khazar peoples who had joined the Magyar tribes before the Hungarian Conquest."



The Khazar ring from the cemetery of Ellend (Inscription 11)

#### II. COINS BEARING HEBREW LETTERS

On his return from the Holy Land, King Endre II found an empty treasury. To replenish it quickly he introduced an emergency war-tax. He had new coinage minted and exchanged several times a year and set up several new mints: at Buda, in the diocese of Csanád, in the Szerémség (Srem) and in Slavonia. These he leased out individually.

Thus capitalist Jewish traders came to head the mints as tenants, which may explain the appearance among the coinage minted during the 13th century of types with Hebrew letters on them. The letters, as deciphered by Gyula Rádóczy, and in the case of the last letter, by the author, are the following, in alphabetic order: <sup>2</sup>

12.

 $\aleph$  = Altman (Nos. 14–15)

 $\Pi$  = Henokh (No. 8)

v = Theka (Nos. 2, 7, 11)

 $\mathbf{D}$  = Fredman (No. 13)

 $\nabla = \text{Samuel (No. 3)}$ 

## III. SEAL BEARING HEBREW LETTERS

On December 12, 1496, Tamás, Count of Szentgyörgy and Bazin (Pezinok), made a contract in Buda with the Jewish prefect, Jacobus Mendel; <sup>3</sup> the original is now in the Hungarian National Archives (*OL*, Dipl. Dep. 24575). It bears several seals, one of which is that of Jacobus Mendel and shows a lion which in form and stance resembles the lions on coats of arms of the time, surmounted by two Hebrew letters.<sup>4</sup>

13.

ימ = J. M.

It was the initials of the prefect. "Es ist dies das älteste Siegel mit hebräischen Buchstaben, welches bisher in Ungarn zum Vorschein kam." 5

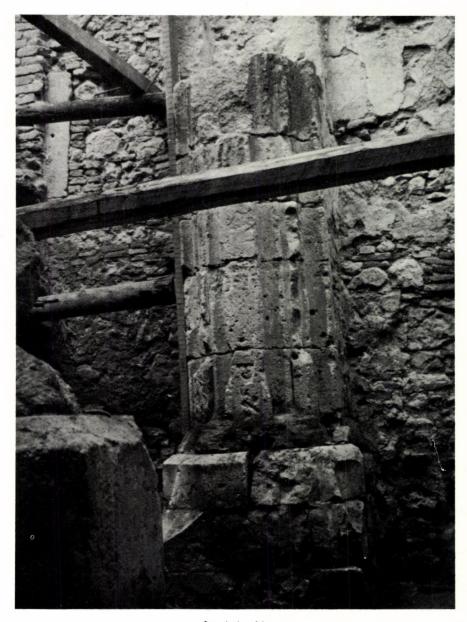


Coins bearing Hebrew letters (Inscription 12)





Inscription 13



Inscription 14

#### IV. SYNAGOGUES

A privilege granted by King Béla IV gave institutional protection of synagogues as early as 1251: "Item si aliquis iactaverit temerarie super scolas Judeorum Judici Judeorum marcam et dimidiam ut persolvat volumus". 6 Yet few written documents mention medieval synagogues in Hungary, and even fewer material remains have survived.

Esztergom. At the end of the 11th century, two Jews from Regensburg, Abraham b. Hiyya and his brother Jacob, were returning from Russia with loaded wagons. One Friday evening they were following the left bank of the Danube when a wheel broke. By the time they reached the village, which was obviously Esztergom, the Jews were just coming out of the synagogue (בית הכנסת). Their brethren did not greet them and did not let them enter the synagogue on the following day. On Sunday they gathered together at the same place to pass judgement on them. Since there was no rabbi in Hungary at that time, they asked R. Kalonymos and R. Shabbatai,7 who may have been in Hungary only while on their way across the country. This information we know from the collection Shibbole Halleket made by Zedekiah b. Abraham Harofe of Rome, which records the severe judgement passed on the breakers of the Sabbath. To clarify satisfactorily the date of the decision and who the rabbis who brought it were, one would have to examine all the available manuscripts, of which there are plenty. The case needs considering in a broader context, since these Jews from Regensburg could have been members of the society of Radanites, which had major trade contacts between the west and the east.8

Buda. The Buda Chronicle mentions the Buda synagogue on June 1, 1307: "castrum Budense per portam, que est iuxta synagogam Judeorum feria quinta post festum beate Petronelle virginis noctis in silencio subintravit..." The same is related by the other chronicles as well.

Their first living quarters began at the Fehérvári or Zsidó kapu, and covered what is today Szent György utca, which at that time was the Jewish street. Their first synagogue was built near the gate, and remains of it should be sought on the site of the former Defence Ministry in Szent György tér (today's Dísz tér).

That settlement was dissolved by King Lajos I whose religious intolerance drove them out of the whole country in 1360, when they refused to be converted. Five years later, however, they were readmitted, as their business skills were

81

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The charter of June 10, 1462

required. The Jews who returned could not reoccupy their old quarters in Buda as the king had presented his followers with their houses, and obviously the synagogue as well.

They had to seek accommodation elsewhere, and the new Jewish street (platea Judaeorum) was along the western stretch of today's Táncsics utca (formerly Werbőczi utca) as far as the Bécsi kapu, which was called the Szombat kapu at the time.

From written sources, Fülöp Grünvald has established where the new synagogue stood: "The group of houses in which the meeting house of the 'old, highly respectable and illustrious community' stood was situated on the northern side of the narrow lane that led from Werbőczi utca to the Bástyasétány." <sup>10</sup>

That synagogue was used until 1526. After the Battle of Mohács, Suleiman II had the Jews put on board of a vessel on September 22, the first day of Sukkot, and resettled them in the Ottoman Empire, since they had a great reputation as good traders and artisans. <sup>11</sup> The sultan occupied Buda permanently only in 1541. According to a contemporary source, he first took the Szombat kapu next to the synagogue in the Jewish street. Some of the Jews returned with him and were greatly moved at being able to return to their old place of worship.

That synagogue was excavated in September 1964. One of the walls of the southernmost building on the block, 23 Táncsics utca, the one facing the Babits Mihály sétány was part of the synagogue. The synagogue had a double nave and was in three sections, with six Gothic vaults. The three monumental pillars excavated witness to the flamboyant style of Gothic employed by the Buda stonemasons in the time of Matthias Corvinus. The bedding of the southern wall-pier bears Hebrew letters that correspond to the year 1541:

14.

$$\frac{\mathbf{w}}{\mathbf{x}} = 1541$$

It was engraved to commemorate the return of the Buda Jews from Turkey.

The date of building was remembered at the same time, on the side face of the pillar to the east:

$$\frac{n}{2}$$
 = 80 years old [1461]

So the synagogue was built in 1461. The Hebrew inscriptions have been deciphered by the author.

From the elements found, it has been possible to reconstruct how the synagogue looked. <sup>12</sup> In the foundations a denarius of János Hunyadi has been found, which verifies what the inscription states. The artistically executed keystone has also been found. The wall, pillar and brick floor remained intact because the courtyard was filled in after 1686 and the synagogue covered with earth. In the Buda land-register of 1696, named the Zaiger register, the historian Lajos Nagy has found data on the synagogue, which was still standing, though in ruins, in that year. <sup>13</sup>

There is even a documentary relic of the synagogue dated June 10, 1462, i.e. the year after it was built: 14

"Nos Michael Orzagh de Gwth regni Hungarie palatinus et iudex Comanorum damus pro memoria, quod causam, quam Johannes Capy adversus communitatem Judeorum, super facto domorum Sinagoge et Jacabhaza, in presenti feria quinta coram nobis motam, de partium voluntate ad feriam secundam proximam post octavas festi Penthecostes (VI. 14.) proxime preteriti taliter duximus prorogandam, ut in ipso die ultra et preter literas et literalia instrumenta factum dictarum domorum tangentes et concernentes, et per partes predictas in nostra presentia productas et exhibita, alias et plures literas et literalia instrumenta, si quas super premissis eedem partes habent confectas et emanata, coram nobis producere et exhibere debeant et teneantur, ut hiis visis iudicium et iustitiam facere valeamus inter partes in premissis, dictante iuris equitate. Ceterum volumus, ut illi, qui ad dictam domum Jacabhaza vocatam ius habere pretendunt, ex Judeis prenominatis, in dicta feria secunda contradictum Johannem de Capy, coram nobis comparere teneantur.

Datum Bude, in dicta feria quinta proxima post festum Penthecostes (VI. 10.) anno domini millesimo quadringentesimo sexagesimo secundo."

"We, Michael Orzagh, the Palatine and judge of the Cumanians, issue this memorandum that the action brought by Johannes Capy against the Jewish community concerning the house of the Synagogue and Jacabháza is now, on this Thursday, by the wish of the parties, postponed to the Monday following the octave of Pentecost, so that in addition to the documents submitted to us so

far, the parties may present further documents of theirs, that we may pass judgement according to the law between the parties having seen these too, as equity demands. Moreover, we desire that all Jews who lay claim to the Jacabhaza appear on that day against Johannes de Capy.

Dated at Buda the Thursday after Pentecost, in the year of Our Lord 1462."

Other documents show that the houses in question were in the Jewish street, near the Szombat kapu: "in platea Judeorum Budensium versus portam Zombath-kapw." 15

Daniel Estrosa, rabbi of Salonika, quotes in his Responsa a will from Buda (February 12, 1647) which disposes of two seats — a man's and a woman's — in the Old Synagogue, and of another one — a man's — in the New Synagogue (J. Z. Kahana: *Mehkarim b'Sifrut ha-Teshuvot*, Jerusalem, 1973, 224–5).

Pozsony (Bratislava). On November 13, 1335, Pope Benedict XII wrote a letter to the Archbishop of Esztergom concerning the Pozsony synagogue. The Jews had built a synagogue beside the Cistercian chapel at Pozsony, and the noise coming from it was disturbing the monks at their prayers: "maligno spiritu concitati de novo synagogam construxerunt iuxta dictum oratorium seu capellam, ita quod pre clamore, quem in dicta synagoga iudei faciunt antedicti, prefati monachi non possunt dicere canonicas horas suas, nec domino reddere vota sua." The pope ordered the archbishop to investigate the matter and if the claim were true to have the synagogue pulled down (MZsO I, 62-3, No. 36). The synagogue stood in the Jewish Court in the neighbourhood of the Halász kapu. In 1336, the Jews moved over to houses situated towards the Lőrinc kapu and there built their second synagogue. In 1361 King Lajos I bestowed that synagogue on his physician, Master Franciscus, the Jews having been expelled the previous year: "Ludovicus rex confirmat donationem et collationem propriam, qua mediante scholam Judaeorum in civitate Posoniensi habitam, post Judaeorum e Regno expulsionem in Fiscum Regium devolutam magistro Francisco Physico suo in perpetuam contulerat, anno 1361" (MZsO, I, XXXIV; V/1, 16, No. 19). Their third synagogue in the Judengasse is mentioned in the town's land register of 1439, under the title "Schul". 16 Documented traces of it reach back to 1434.<sup>17</sup> On June 16, 1446 (the feast of Corpus Christi) a mob of people from Pozsony and elsewhere broke into the Jewish street and robbed both the Jews' houses and the synagogue ("den hat man iere schul und heuser aufgeprochen mit gewalt, und seu beraubt"). 18 In 1526, the Jews were expelled from Pozsony and the synagogue expropriated. The list of houses they abandoned includes the synagogue ("Item domus juden sinagog"). At the time



Cornerstone with the names of the founders in the southwestern corner of the 13th century synagogue in Sopron (Inscription 16)

there was no buyer for it.<sup>19</sup> In its place in the former Hummel utca there is now an Ursuline church built after the expulsion of the Jews. The engineer Jenő Bárkány (of Bratislava) has observed that from the outside the church is strongly reminiscent of a synagogue; at least in part, its walls are those of the old synagogue, which have naturally been remodelled. Further research on the building will reveal more about it. So far no trace of Hebrew inscriptions has emerged.

### Sopron

a) In 1441, the Austrian Prince Friedrich, as holder of the lien of Sopron, ordered that the houses and the synagogue of the Jews in the town should not be damaged or expropriated: "oder an irer Judenschül dhainerlay irrung oder beswerung tun wolte, das ir des mit nichte gestattet, Sunder Sÿ von vnsern wegen dabeÿ vestichlich haltet schermet vnd beleiben lasset, als von alter Herkommen ist." In 1526, after the expulsion of the Jews, the synagogue was plundered, and in 1553, the town council sold it to Sebastian Mayr, a tailor. This Mayr or his descendants converted it into two levels by a wooden ceiling and into several smaller rooms by putting up dividing walls.

In 1967, the archaeologist Sándor Tóth and the art historian Ferenc Dávid discovered the old synagogue within the dwelling houses at 22–24 Új utca, which was formerly the Judengasse (or *rehov hayehudim* in Hebrew). The synagogue had been built in the early 1300s. In a number of details, principally in the ornaments framing its Ark of the Covenant, it is shown to have followed 13th century classical Gothic art. However, the execution of its arches—the vault itself consisted of three arch sections, and the eastern and the western sections were expanded by two further ribs each—and the tympanum division of its portal show more modern elements. Across the whole width of the synagogue and vestibule and to the west is the *Frauenschul*, a single-storey prayer-hall for women under a separate roof. Of the known medieval synagogues, only the women's synagogue at Worms dates from the 13th century. The building also had a ritual bath and a hospice. The work of reconstruction was led by János Sedlmayr. It was handed over as a historic monument on June 29, 1976.

On the southeastern corner of the building there is the fragment of an inscribed stone, obviously with remains of the names of the founders. The inscriptions have been deciphered by the author.



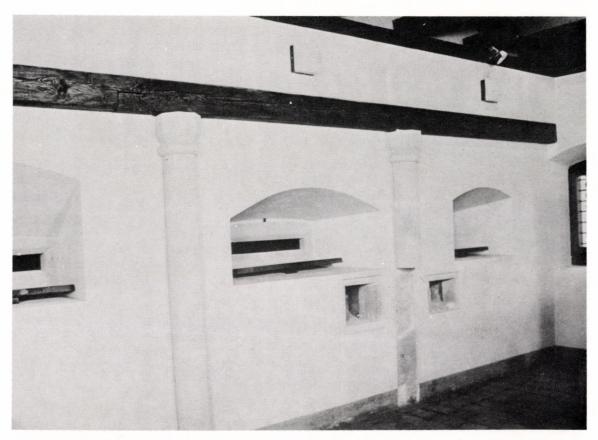
The eastern front of the restored 13th century synagogue in Sopron



The entrance of the 13th century synagogue in Sopron



The eastern wall of the 13th century synagogue in Sopron



The Frauenschul of the 13th century Sopron synagogue, with slits looking on the men's prayer-hall



The southern wall of the vestibule of the 13th century Sopron synagogue (Inscription 18)

16.

....[ב"ר] אברה' זצ"ל ....ב"ר מאיר

... (the son of) Abraham, his true memory is blessed ..., the son of Meir

The names are missing, having broken off, or having been broken off, and only the names of the fathers have survived.<sup>24</sup>

17.

In the vestibule, the back wall of the niche opposite the main entrance has the names of medieval visitors scratched on it:

> סולימן ב"ר יחיאל ז"ל ק"ק טובינגאן גבריאל (?) ב"ר צדוק ..... ב"ר יצחק

Sulayman, the son of Yehiel, his memory is blessed, from the holy community of Tübingen, Gabriel (?), the son of R. Zadok, ...., the son of Isaac

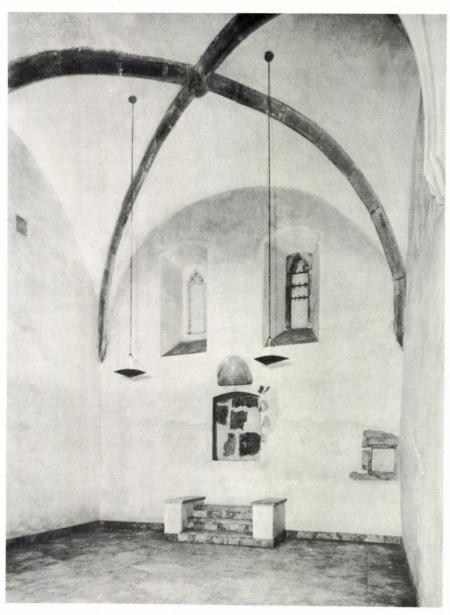
#### REMARKS:

Line 1: סולימן (S. D. Goitein: A Mediterranean Society, HI, Berkeley–Los Angeles–London, 1978, 282)

Same line: יחיאל (Ezra VIII, 9)

Line 2: Jews settled in Tübingen in 1335; cf. the Jewish Street (Judengasse) mentioned in 1342 or 1398 (*Germania Judaica*. Ed. Z. Avneri, II, Tübingen, 1968, 835–7)

Line 3: גבריאל (Dan. VIII, 16) Same line: צדוק (II. Samuel VIII, 17)



The eastern wall of the 14th century synagogue in Sopron

The southern side of the vestibule consists of the wall of the synagogue. The inscriptions incised on it are obviously the names of visitors to the synagogue:

יהודה משה Yehuda Moses

b) In December 1957, the National Board for Monument Preservation excavated and reconstructed the 14th century Gothic synagogue with its double-groined vault in the building at 11 Új utca; it was festively opened on July 5, 1960. The later building may well have been a private synagogue. Research by F. Grünvald lends credence to the theory that the patron of the synagogue was the first Jew of Sopron to be mentioned by name, Izrael Judeus Soproniensis, who later moved to Vienna. He was a person of distinction, as was borne out by the property he held in Sopron. Along with a couple of associates, he can be considered as the banker to Austria's dukes. The synagogue at 11 Új utca was serving as a Christian dwelling house by 1500, which might be connected with the fact that Izrael had left Sopron.

Not a single inscribed stone has been found from the synagogue, but the lancet stone used as an ornament above the niche of the Ark of the Covenant has been discovered built into the wall. It bears a trefoil tracery relief from which a narrow marble or stone strip is missing. This must have been the Hebrew inscription, which was destroyed by those who ravaged the synagogue or by the later owners. Like that in its closest relative, the Miltenberg synagogue, the inscription may have read: אתה עומד "Learn before whom it is you stand!"<sup>27</sup>

One hopes inscribed stone remains will still come to light, as there are plans to demolish the houses adjoining the synagogue.

Nagymarton (Mattersdorf, Mattersburg). There are no written records of the synagogue at Nagymarton. The date of erection was inscribed in Hebrew letters over the entrance (the medieval formula of the inscription, which was restored when the synagogue was expanded in 1875, shows the wording to be the original):<sup>28</sup>



The lancet stone in the 14th century Sopron synagogue



The restored inscription of the medieval synagogue in Nagymarton (Inscription 19)



The synagogue in Nagymarton

# [נבנה מתחלה] באלף הששי שנת קיד

[First erected] in 154 [1353/54], in the sixth millennium

"According to the architect Manó Pollák, the eastern part of the synagogue, which was covered by barrel vaulting, had three pairs of high windows, and was supported from the outside by ten pillars, indicates that the synagogue probably dates from the Middle Ages." We understand that the synagogue was destroyed by the Germans in 1938.

Székesfehérvár. A documentary record of the medieval synagogue at Székesfehérvár has been found very recently. After the death of Matthias Corvinus, the Emperor Maximilian I immediately recruited a mercenary army using the money of the Fuggers of Augsburg, and recaptured Vienna and Wiener Neustadt. By September 21, 1490, he was already outside Sopron at Vulkapordány (Wulkaprodersdorf), but he did not take the town, since it swore to stay neutral. Then followed the capture of Szombathely, then of Veszprém, and finally, on November 17, of Székesfehérvár, in which Florian Waldauf played a hero's part. Maximilian was still in Székesfehérvár on December 4, and from there planned to march on Buda, but his mercenaries mutinied when they discovered the Hungarian King Ulászló II had already gathered a strong army there. Maximilian was obliged to withdraw from the country. A Latin document dated November 17, 1490 to be found in the Town Museum of Hall in the Tirol declares, "King Maximilian I of Germany, wishing to reward the bravery and fidelity of the German royal protonotary Florian Waldauf of Waldenstein, confers a knighthood on him, and grants him the house of Moses Buzlay's with the lands pertaining to it, as well as the synagogue and house of the Jew Isaac."29 Between November 17 and December 4, 1490, Florian Waldauf had time enough to plunder the house and lands of Moses Buzlay, a very rich nobleman, along with the synagogue and the house of Isaac the Jew, to place all the chattels on wagons and send them to Austria, where he sold them. It made him an immensely rich man, who could also afford to make a rich donation to the church.<sup>30</sup>

Bazin (Pezinok). In 1529, the same year the Jews were charged with ritual murder and burned at the stake in Bazin, a six-page pamphlet was published on the occurrences; it is now among the pamphlet material in the National

andyon that give buch foils to banging it hashes ladered - it ste me symmet Francis and solven have presented as an inquience his neliberty fore immore to domely up sovediring in them ! Gadas been sombly in early mailment owing his or inhibits Commis somefree w emigent seneratur tradinis up a fattant taking or haponing the wood dat Alders do sorted By a singleton Green Comor or confirming freezing days to might and the they side offing in Cult were Park do sen line transmignes a Comme son your says - relationed of rendenations distribute for tracking with forthe ist after stopen myseum ent fuctor more broken back Is it Sandwell forming variousless from July of his see & unfeatures deliving I observe forderes fine about a relumber openfin for singings then for in Comme in broken fundamen receive too file of mondial a terminal density at mage falls. Night of the see furty but The it there fully and advantable at the see fully processed and it will be and cont surger to fire yet with morning chance town sto de bough of his fore beautiff is placement remineste designed I comprehend in mis the Davis not enfrience having in breaking of previously show a sail surgege of section

In Come in moment of fidentiagen and commenter Indonena chains to pot office has tone for signific former who and hoging melbodes salve more for as before my Day

The two pages of the deed transferring ownership of the Nagyszombat synagogue in 1539

Széchényi Library (No. 95): "Ain erschrockenlich geschicht vnd Mordt so von den Juden zu Pösing ain Marckht in Hungern gelegen" etc. In the course of the story, the synagogue is also mentioned: "...amm freytag nach gotts auffartstag haben sich die juden all versammelt in die synagog in und Jacob juden des Colman prueder auss der sinagog zu zwayen malen geschafft."<sup>31</sup>

Nagyszombat (Trnava). As early as the 14th century, there was a major Jewish community within the town's walls. The statement repeatedly made that the town's synagogue is mentioned in written sources in connection with the charge of ritual murder made in 1494 leaves room for doubt. Bonfini writes "in proximas edes", which might mean the "nearest building" and not the "nearby temple". Elsewhere Bonfini actually uses the word "synagogue". "The town flourished economically when, as a consequence of Vienna's staple right, the road from the West led through it. The synagogue which was built at that time may have been modelled on the Gothic synagogue in Prague, the Altneuschul, because of the lively trade contacts with that city." In 1539, the Jews of Nagyszombat presented the synagogue to Albert Peregi ("templum seu sinagogam eorum"). 33

The full text of the document from which the above quotations have been taken became known only 20 years ago. The reason why the Nagyszombat Jews—expelled from the town—presented their synagogue to the provost of Pécs was that he had obtained a charter from the king ensuring them personal and material security: <sup>34</sup>

"Nos judex, juratique cives civitatis Tirnaviensis memorie commendamus tenore presencium universis, quibus incumbit, significantes, quod in nostram accedentes presenciam providi Josa Budensis, Orozlan Fodor, Isak Olaz, Jacobus gener predicti Orozlan, Wolfgangus Farkas, Simon gener condam Simonis Glaser, alter Simon de Galgocz, Abraham gener Jacobi, Joseph Fokhagmas et Jacobus filius condam Moyse onera et quelibet gravamina tam ceterorum omnium et singulorum judeorum similiter alias hic Tirnavie commorancium, quam eciam eorundem ac suorum propriorum prolium, proximorum et consanguineorum, aliorum denique quorumcunque, quos subsequens concernit aut in futurum respicere videbitur negocium in se ipsos assumentes sponte et uniformiter hanc fecerunt fassionem, quod ex quo decreto sacratissime regie maiestatis, domini nostri clementissimi, omnibus judeis hic residentibus foret iniunctum, ut domibus et hereditatibus in ipsa civitate habitis libere venditis seu quibus maluerint, collatis sese ex eadem civitate transferre et migrare tenerentur, habentes igitur respectum singularis beneficii et patrocinii

reverendi domini Alberti de Pereg prepositi Quinqueecclesiensis, prefecti camere ac consiliarii, secretarii dicte regie maiestatis, quod idem dominus Albertus prepositus in causa eorundem judeorum, ob quam presens transmigracio e civitate orta extitit, signanter tamen in expedicione et condonacione litterarum pro tuicione vite et bonorum suorum per ipsam regiam maiestatem eisdem judeis concessarum prestitisset et in huiusmodi patrocinii recompensam prenominati judei ex pari voto et consentanea, liberaque ceterorum judeorum huic abeuncium voluntate templum seu sinagogam eorum hic in civitate in platea judeorum vocata versus plagam orientalem in vicinitatibus domorum ab una condam judei Nyssel, ex alia vero partibus judei Isak de Nitria fundatam et adiacentem cum omnibus aliis structuris, edificiisque et utilitatibus ad eandem sinagogam de jure et ab antiquo pertinentibus memorato domino Alberto de Pereg preposito, suisque heredibus et posteritatibus universis donassent, dedissent et jure perpetuo irrevocabiliter contulissent, immo donarunt, dederunt et contulerunt coram nobis nil juris vel proprietatis sibi ipsis seu heredibus et posteritatibus ipsorum in eadem sinagoga et pertinenciis eius reservantes. In cuius rei memoriam et firmitatem ad racionabilem instanciam ipsius domini Alberti prepositi has litteras sub sigillo civitatis nostre eidem duximus concedandas salvo tamen jure et libertate civitatis. Datum."

"We, the judge and sworn citizens of the town of Tirna (Nagyszombat), give notice on the strength of our present letter as a memorandum to all concerned that the honourable Josa of Buda, Orozlan Fodor, Isak Olaz, Jacobus, the son-in-law of Orozlan mentioned, Farkas Wolfgang, the other Simon of Galgoc, son-in-law of the late Simon Glaser, Abraham, the son-in-law of Jacobus, Joseph Fokhagmas, and Jacobus, the son of the late Moyse, urgently taking all burdens and grievances upon themselves, on behalf both of every single Jew at present living in Tirna and of their sons, relatives and dependants who will only be concerned in the future, voluntarily and unanimously acknowledge that since every Jew, by order of His Royal Majesty, our gracious Lord, is bound to go away from here, yet is free to sell or present his house and inheritance possessed in the town to whomsoever he wishes, in view of the singular beneficence and patronage Provost Albert Peregi of Quinqueecclesiae (Pécs), His Royal Majesty's Privy Councillor of the crown, has showed in the Jewish law suit which has effected this migration from the town, and more especially because he procured the royal deed permitting the Jews to keep their lives and property, in recompense for the said patronage, the above-mentioned Jews, with the unanimous consent of the other Jews, have donated, given and irrevocably presented with rights in perpetuity the temple, that is the synagogue,

of this town, in the street called Jewish Street to the south in the vicinity of the house of the Jew Nyssel on the one side and of Isak of Nitria (Nyitra) on the other, with all the structures, buildings and usufructs that legally and long have pertained thereto to the above-mentioned Provost Albert Peregi and to his heirs and successors, and do indeed donate, give and confer that synagogue and appurtenances of it without reserving any rights or properties to themselves or their heirs and successors.

As a memorial and confirmation of which transaction we have presented this letter to the said Provost Albert under the seal of our town, keeping thereby the right and liberty of the town.

Given at Tirna in the year 1539."

In 1541, the town of Nagyszombat paid 150 forints in two instalments for the synagogue.<sup>35</sup>

Városszalonak. On August 18, 1559, Ferenc Batthyány wrote to Tamás Nádasdy that he could not receive the archbishop, as there was in Szalonak no other building like the Jewish synagogue ("quales sint habitationes hic nimirum, uti sinagoga Judaica").<sup>36</sup>

#### V. CEMETERIES

The following Hungarian Jewish cemeteries dating from the Middle Ages are known of:

Buda. A charter of 1290 in the private archives of the Veszprém Chapter makes the following mention of the Jewish cemetery in Buda from the age of the Árpáds: "deinde ad sepulturam judeorum concludendo versus vineas inter loca memorata." The Turks who died in battle on September 8–10, 1529 were buried in the Jewish cemetery of Buda ("sein die corper all auf der judenfreithof gefuert worden"). The cemetery is mentioned again in 1541 in connection with the battles with the Turks: "a monte Gerardo ad sepulchra Judaeorum castra movit", and in another source: "vntern perg an der Juden freythoff, da wurden sie al nider gehawen vnd getödt wie das viech". Mention of it was made also in 1593 ("non longe a sepultura judaeorum"). Gravestones from it have come to light.

Vasvár. In the vicinity of Vasvár lies Zsidófölde, a village which was incorporated into Vasvár in the second half of the last century. As recently published documents indicate, the village probably gained its name from the Jewish cemetery. The place is first mentioned in 1294.<sup>42</sup> Later the Provost and Chapter of Vasvár entered into litigation with the royal citizens of Vasvár over rights of ownership to an estate of approximately 400 holds. In a document of May 9, 1393 Miklós Kanizsai reported to King Zsigmond that he wished to register the Chapter and Provost of Vasvár as owners of Zsidófölde; however, a dispute arose over the ownership of a part of the area, including the site of a castle, eight holds of land and the territory of the Jewish cemetery ("locum sepulture Judeorum ad dictam possessionem Sydofeulde vocatam").<sup>43</sup> In the 1930s, a Jewish gravestone was reported in Vasvár; however, long and arduous inquiries by the author have revealed no current trace of it. The land owned by József Császár, where the stone had been found, was considered by professor István Paulovics to have been the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery.

Esztergom. A document from 1326 in the domestic archives of the Esztergom Chapter mentions the Jewish cemetery of Esztergom: "pervenit ad locum sepulturae judeorum de Strigonio". 44 The site of the cemetery is unknown and no gravestones have come to light.

Leez (Borsod County). On March 5, 1338, the noblemen of Bezzeg divided their estate in Leez among themselves before the Eger Chapter: "ad possessionem eorundem filiorum Ladislai et Johannis filii Petri modo prenotato devolutam wlgo Sydosyr (Jewishgrave) nuncuparetur." Here one cannot assume there was a Jewish cemetery, and the name may have come from an isolated Jewish grave.

Sopron. The cemetery is first mentioned in 1427 as "juden freithof", 46 and in 1437 as "judenfreithof". 47 Recently a most interesting piece of information about what happened to it has come to light. Jenő Házi, a retired director of the Sopron Archives, found a note in the accounts of St. Michael's Church in Sopron for the year 1539 (for March 20–30, on page 32): Mihály Töltl, the patron of the church, paid the stonemason Hans on three occasions for having sought in the Jewish cemetery suitable building stones for the construction of St. Michael's Church, for having dressed and delivered them in four wagonloads to the church. The original text reads: 48

"Vermerckt, was ich zu natarfft auff das pau zu Sant Michels kirichen hab geben des 39. iars.

"Item am pfinstag vor Judica (March 20) hab ich den Hans stainmetzen in den judenfreithoff stain lassen aufgebinnen, hab im geben I sol. X den.

"Item am freitag darnach (March 21) hab ich lassen dÿe stain fieren zu der stieg, so man auf dem freithoff einget, vier füeder dÿe stain aufzufassen vnt abzuleren mitsamt der fur angeschlagen per II. sol. den.

"Item an dem Palbensuntag (March 30) zalt ich den stainmetzen von den stain zu hauen 9 taberich, ÿe eins per X kreitzer, tut I tal. 4 sol. den."

St. Michael's Church is first heard of in 1278, but it was built onto in several stages. "Around the time of the disaster of Mohács... the church was completed." The document quoted above shows that it was still being built in 1539. It is also clear that the majority of the Jewish gravestones are in one place: built into St. Michael's Church.

This was no unique occurrence. When St. Anne's Cathedral in Frankfurt am Main was hit by a bomb in the last year of the war, two Jewish gravestones dating from 1284 became visible in the altar-table.<sup>50</sup> In 1955, a Jewish gravestone was found in the courtyard of the Catholic seminary of Neuburg; it served as the highest step in the passage leading down into the cellar. The stone dates from 1241 and is to the memory of a proselyte woman called Esther.<sup>51</sup> In 1953, two Jewish gravestones were found at a great depth beneath the Rathaus of Cologne: those of Sarah b. Menahem from 1302 and Rachel b. Shneur from 1323.<sup>52</sup>

If St. Michael's Church should ever be renovated, the Jewish gravestones would obviously become visible. So far eight medieval Jewish gravestones have come to light in Sopron.

Pozsony (Bratislava). From 1439 onwards, the town's account books mention the Jewish cemetery: "Item als man die püxen beschoss, pey dem Juden freytthof, dy geprach, wenn sy war zu dönn gossen." In 1442 "von den Judn freytthof" can be read. 53 It was somewhere in the neighbourhood of Szénamérő tér (Heuwagplatz). 54 One gravestone was discovered but has since disappeared. In 1866, Henrik Deutsch wrote: "In Pozsony there also stood a... stone on the corner of the post-street, as Korabinszky relates, but last year I could find no trace of it." 55

Sárvár. On July 26, 1552, the student István sent some watermelons to György Perneszith, and in his accompanying letter wrote: "en nem szettem, hanem Szabo Janos, harmat talaltam az utan Sydo temetes helen." (Not I but

Janos Szabo picked them, then I found three on the site of the Jewish cemetery). 56 Undoubtedly the medieval Jewish cemetery of Sárvár is meant, which shows there must have been a Jewish community, though no earlier references to it are known. No gravestones have been found there.

Torony (near Szombathely). In a letter of January 26, 1554 to Batthyány, István János Bánffy mentions the Torony garden, which formed part of the Batthyány estate. Jewish graves were to be found in the garden which Batthyány had converted into a pasture where the game went to graze: "nunc autem amenitatis illorum Judaicorum tumulorum, quos M. D. V. in orto suo Thoroniensi erexit, herbisque conserere fecit, utilitatem cognoscimus, dum tales feras eius amenitate pasci percipimus" (Batthyány Corresp. Miss. Magdolna Guti Ország). <sup>57</sup> As he speaks of a pasture, it must have been a larger area; presumably there were not scattered graves there, but a Jewish cemetery. Apart from the above letter, there is no other information on this cemetery.

Although there is documentary proof of the existence of these medieval cemeteries, not all of them, as we have noted, have yielded gravestones. However, gravestones have come to light from cemeteries of which no documentary evidence survives.

# VI. GRAVESTONES

Over the years many reports of Jewish gravestones have reached us. It is not worth listing them all; here we present only a few samples. Report had it that during building work on the Fried house at Ungvár (Uzhgorod), gravestones with Hebrew inscriptions were found three metres below street level. "What has so far been established about them is that they found their way underground more than 400 years ago." In Ungvár there is a mention of a Jew called Salomon in 1493 ("a quodam Judeo Salomone in oppido Wnghwar commorante"). 59

There is, however, no evidence to support the supposition that there was a cemetery at Vár (Gyulavár). The presumption of its existence dates back to around 1890, when the Jewish community of Gyula had the Gyulavár cemetery excavated, and had the dead, along with the gravestones, transferred to their own cemetery. The latter was said to include a granite stone dated 5195 Tammuz, i.e. 1435. The stone is reported to have been relocated in an area that

lay in the flood plain of the river Körös; it has since disappeared.<sup>60</sup> There is, however, little reason for us to think it to have been a Jewish gravestone since there was no medieval Jewish settlement in that region.

On the other hand, there is reliable information to place the medieval Jewish cemetery of Ilava, which was abandoned in 1662. It was on the site of the Hotel Káčer, and several undated medieval Jewish gravestones were built into the walls of the hotel building.<sup>61</sup> The author was there on August 31, 1967 and learnt that in April and May of the year the stones were immured into the building during the renovation of the hotel.

# **VÖLKERMARKT**

The gravestone stood in the cemetery of Völkermarkt (Carinthia). In the Middle Ages there was a large Jewish community with a synagogue, a Jewish street, a Jewish tower and a cemetery. The "Judenbrunnen", near Völkermarkt, is mentioned in the 13th century. The stone was later taken to St. Stephan by Niedertrixen, and from there to its present site. It is the oldest Jewish gravestone in Austria and is to the memory of Shabbatai. The appellation *ha-parnas* indicates that he was the chairman or elder of the Jewish community. He died a martyr's death in Hungary, but his body was returned to his home. The historical circumstances are unknown, and previous publications of the text have been unsatisfactory.

20.

# **AUGUST 1, 1130**

This memorial has been erected as a pillow for Shabbatai the elder, who was killed in Hungary



Inscription 20

[תֹ]תֹצֹ לבריאת [עֹ] [ו] הוא נתן נפש [ל]מעז כבוד [השׁ] [ביום] א ובכד ימי[ם]

in the 890th year of the Creation. He gave his soul for the veneration of the name [of God] on Sunday and on the 24th מנחום day of the month of Menahem ...[אב נקבר] [Ab was buried]...

Dimensions unknown.

5

10

Now in the lapidarium of the Landesmuseum für Kärnten in Klagenfurt. Inventory No. 524

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: J. Babad: 'Jüdische Grabsteine in Kärnten', MGWJ, LXXX, 1936, 53-4; D. Herzog: ibid, 64-5; E.L. Rapp and Ö. Böcher: 'Die ältesten hebräischen Inschriften Mitteleuropas in Mainz, Worms und Speyer', Jahrbuch der Vereinigung "Freunde der Universität Mainz", 1959, 25-6, No. 21a; idem: 'Die mittelalterlichen hebräischen Epitaphien des Rheingebiets', Mainzer Zeitschrift, LVI/LVII, 1961/62, 181; R. Böhm: 'Zu dem ältesten hebräischen Grabstein Österreichs', ZDMG, CXIII, 1964, 515-20. The article is unknown to W. Wadl: Geschichte der Juden in Kärnten im Mittelalter, Klagenfurt, 1981, 139.

Reference: A. Scheiber: The World History of the Jewish People. The Dark Ages, Tel Aviv, 1966, 316; N. Z. Roth: Fourth World Congress of Jewish Studies. Papers, II, Jerusalem, 1968, 195; idem: Talpioth, IX, 1970, 844.

Photographs: J. Babad: Historia Judaica, VII, 1945, 18; Mainzer Zeitschrift, LVI/LVII, 1961/62, 181; ZDMG, CXIII, 1964, appendix between pp. 518 and 519.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: ציון הלז: II Kings, xxiii, 17.

Line 2: The name Shabbatai (Ezra X, 15; Neh. VIII, 7, XI, 16) also occurs in the chapter on the Esztergom synagogue.

Line 3: הפרנס: On this word in the Middle Ages see: B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I. Wien und Leipzig, 1912, 72, No. 85; L. Finkelstein: Jewish Self-Government in the Middle Ages, New York, 1964, 272; S. Bowman: 'Jewish Epitaphs in Thebes', REJ, CXLI, 1982, 325.

Line 4: D. Herzog and Rapp-Böcher (in the second publication) read אוגראב, which is the popular abbreviation of Untergraben. It was first deciphered correctly by Babad.

Same line: באונגריא: The Josippon, II. Ed. D. Flusser, Jerusalem, 1980, 255; N. Golb-O. Pritsak: Khazarian Hebrew Documents of the Tenth Century, Ithaca-London, 1982, 92.

Lines 9–10: The name of the month has been deciphered by the author. The burial took place on the 24th of the month Ab, August 1, 1130, though he died on Sunday, July 27. That was the time it took to bring the body home.

# **BUDA**

The first Jewish cemetery was founded in the age of the Árpáds in the area marked out by Alagút, Pauler, Roham and Attila streets. 62 This cemetery must still have been known of in 1713, when the Buda Jews referred to 500 to 600 yearold gravestones in a complaint written to King Károly III: "die arme Judenschafft, als derer Vorfahren von denen durchleichtigsten und glohrwürdigsten Königen in Hungaren eine gantze Judengassen und Synagog inngehabt, wessen wahrzeichen nebst denen Heussern die Grabschriften in Stein gehauen von 500 bis 600 Jahren vorhanden seyndt."63 In September, 1894, Jewish gravestones came to light on this site when foundations for a new house were dug at a depth of four metres; the stones immediately convinced Dávid Kaufmann that this was the site of the first and oldest cemetery of the Jews settled in Buda castle since 1246, since they were found in situ, vertically, just as they were originally erected. Remains of bones were also found, which further reinforced his supposition. At that time three gravestones came to light.<sup>64</sup> The following year building work began on the site next door, and the foundation work brought another three gravestones to light, indicating that the site still belonged to the cemetery, but was used for burials in a later age as well, as the stones dated from the late 14th and the early 15th centuries.65 In 1897, an undated gravestone fragment was dug up on the corner of Roham and Attila

streets, and in 1898, a complete gravestone was found in a standing position, at a depth of four metres, on the site of 56 Attila utca. <sup>66</sup> Although after 1365 the Jews moved from the neighbourhood of the Fehérvári kapu (later Szent György utca) to Zsidó (later Werbőczi, now Táncsics) utca, the 15th century gravestones show that they continued to use their old cemetery even when it was far from where they lived.

The owner of the two plots, Károly Biermann, donated the stones to the Hungarian National Museum, from where they have been transferred to the Budapest Historical Museum. Today most of them are in the museum's Lapidarium at 26 Táncsics Mihály utca. At the time of the first find, Sámuel Kohn declared: "Let us have excavations carried out in Buda, but soon, before a street is opened over the old Jewish graveyard. It will cost us a financial sacrifice, but it is our moral duty." <sup>67</sup>

Besides the stones mentioned already, another three medieval gravestones have been discovered in various parts of Buda. These had been dragged away from their original positions and used for building work.

During the siege of Budapest in 1944-45, the houses on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery were hit by bombs. While the removal of the rubble and the rebuilding was going on, I paid frequent visits to the site in the hope of making further finds. The workmen found large numbers of human bones, but not a single gravestone. It was a grave mistake that we did not turn to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and commission excavations. By that omission the last opportunity was lost.

There are also stones which have been lost or lie concealed. Some of them were still to be seen in 1833 on the site of the cemetery, when József Podhradczky wrote: "This cemetery was in the Krisztinaváros district, where Jewish gravestones can still be seen." 68

A decade later M. Zipser noted: <sup>69</sup> "Noch sind da und dort Grabsteine aus dem alten jetzt ganz demolierten jüdischen Friedhof als Ecksteine bei manchen Häusern anzutreffen, deren Sammlung und würdigere Aufbewahrung wahrlich nicht bloss die religiöse Pietät gegen unsere verstorbenen Vorfahren, sondern das einfache Menschengefühl gegen Verstorbene überhaupt uns gebieten sollte." A stone mentioned in 1866 has since disappeared: "I have the hope," wrote Henrik Deutsch, "that I shall also acquire the inscription which stood for a long time on the corner of a street in Krisztinaváros, but has been taken to the Israelite cemetery in Óbuda." <sup>70</sup> Even in 1887, Sámuel Kohn saw stones which could only have come from the medieval Jewish cemetery: "Several such gravestones, whose inscriptions, however, are



Inscription 21

for the most part already faint, are immured in what is called the Fehérvári kapu in Buda." $^{71}$ 

Sándor Büchler also mentions one: "Two years ago gravestones from the Árpád age were dug up in Buda; had the National Museum not taken pity on them, they would still be lying around there, or would have become lost as that old Jewish gravestone in Buda which I published an account of in the papers years ago did." <sup>72</sup> I have been unable to trace this publication.

The stones described below are marked by the depth and size of their carved letters, their fairly large surface, the fairly broad border and the attempt in the text at originality. Here, too, certain general forms are adhered to, as is pointed out in the remarks. Particularly typical is the use of אלף הששי in the date.

21.

5

# AUGUST 21-SEPTEMBER 18, 1278

הלז קמה לראש ר פסח בר פטר שנאסף לעולמו	This memorial is raised at the head of R. Pesah, son of R. Peter, who returned to eternity in the 38th year of the sixth millennium [1278],
בשנת לח לאלף שישי בירח אלול	in the 38th year of the sixth millennium [1278], in the month of Elul

Discovered in 1894, at the corner of Alagút and Pauler streets, on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery of Buda.

Height: 68 cm; width: 72 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 639.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: AÉ, XV, 1895, 219-20; idem: MGWJ, XXXIX, 1895, 306-07; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 46.

Photographs: AÉ, XV, 1895, 220; BpR, V, 1897, 47; F. Grünvald: A zsidók története Budán, Bp., 1938, 4; A. Fürst: בודאפשט, Arim Veimmahot Be-Yisrael, II, Jerusalem, 1947, plate between pp. 37 and 38.

References: D. Kaufmann: 'Der älteste jüdische Grabstein Ungarns', *Pester Lloyd*, XLI, 1894, No. 224 (Abendblatt); S. Kohn: *IMIT Évkönyve*, 1896, 58; S. Büchler: *A zsidók története Budapesten*, Bp., 1901, 37–8.

## REMARKS:

Line 1: ציון הלו: see line 1 of Stone 20: a familiar medieval formula. See L. Lewysohn: נפשות צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 43, No. 24; 111, No. IX; D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 128; L. Levy: 'Die ältesten Grabsteine in Mähren', Die Juden und Judengemeinden Mährens in Vergangenheit und Gegenwart, Brno, 1929, 24.

Line 2: קמה: a grammatical error for קם. See L. Lewysohn: op. cit., 112, No. XII.

Line 3: TOD: cf L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, Berlin, 1876, 25; E. L. Rapp: Die Mainzer hebräischen Epitaphien aus dem Mittelalter, Mainz, 1958, 10, No. 23. Pessach Manusch in Sopron in 1497–8 (MZsO, VIII, 91–2, No. 81; 93–4, No. 84).

Same line: 700. H.J. Zimmels states: "The name 'Peter' is not found among the Jews in Europe in the Middle Ages, being regarded as the name of a renegade and thus objectionable from the religious point of view" (JQR, N.S. XLVIII, 1957–8, 51–2). Instead he reads Pater. This is erroneous, as the transcription of the name in Latin letters also proves. In 1343, in Frankfurt am Main mention is made of a Petrus von Menze (G.L. Kriegk: Frankfurter Bürgerzwiste und Zustände im Mittelalter, Frankfurt a/M, 1862, 552; A. Dietz: Stammbuch der Frankfurter Juden, Frankfurt a/M, 1907, 192; I. Kracauer: Urkundenbuch zur Geschichte der Juden in Frankfurt a. M. von 1150 bis 1400, I, Frankfurt a/M, 1914, 368, 377). In 1382 we know of two Jews in Brno, Peter and Mertlin, as owners of the village of Strzizow (E. Carmoly: Ben Chananja, II, 1859, 464). This same Peter appears in the same year in a document written in Latin, the abstract of which is known: "Jaroslaw, Abt, und der Convent des Praemonstratenserklosters Zabdrowitz bekennen, dass sie den Brünner Juden

Peter Reuthlin, Jacob von Berge (de Monte) und Cheblin 24 Mark prager Groschen mährischer Währung schuldig sind und verpflichten sich dieses Darlehen in drei Fristen bis Weinachten desselben Jahres zurückzuzahlen. 18. Juli 1382" (G. Bondy und F. Dworsky: Zur Geschichte der Juden in Böhmen, Mähren und Schlesien von 906 bis 1620, I, Prague, 1906, 79-80, No. 158). Its form in Hebrew letters is rather frequent. For example in 1300 a gravestone in Rothenburg o. d. Tauber gives יחיאל בר פטר (M. Grunwald: MGWJ. LXXII, 1928, 206, No. 4). Further examples can be found from the Middle Ages (M. Wiener: ZDMG, XIX, 1865, 511; A. Scheiber: JOR, N.S. XLVIII, 1957–8, 306-07). It can also be encountered in more recent publications (Responsa et Decisiones, ed. E. Kupfer, Jerusalem, 1973, 144, 168; A.M. Habermann: Hadashim Gam Yeshanim, Jerusalem, 1975, 232; New Responsa of Rabbi Yaacov Molin-Maharil, ed. Y. Satz, Jerusalem, 1977, 338, No. 204). In 1547, during the Turkish occupation, its Hebrew form also occurs among the Buda Jews: Kajfes (MZsO, V/1, 189). In 1580 the names Múszí Petri, Jakob Petri and Petre can be encountered (L. Fekete: Tanulmányok Budapest múltjából, VI, 1938, 132, 133). In the 18th century: Petrus Salamon, Petter Heyam, Peter Elias, Petrus Levko and Moyses Piter (MZsO, XVI, 186, 236, 280). László Galambos gives examples of the occurrence of the name Peter in Hungary among non-Jews: A szentírási eredetű személynevek a Váradi Regestrumban (Forenames of Biblical origin in the Várad Regestrum), Bp., 1942, 37-9.

Line 6: שישי is a grammatical error for השישי. The writing of the word as "plene" frequently occurs in the Middle Ages. To cite the millennia is another medieval peculiarity. See, for example, M. Pollák: A zsidók Bécs-Újhelyen (Jews in Wiener-Neustadt), Bp., 1891, 41, 42, 52.

22.	
	1279/80
שנאסף [לעולמו בשנת] חמשת אלפים	who returned [to eternity]
חמשת אלפים וארבעים לפרט	in the five thousand and fortieth [year], according to the major era [1279/80].
אאא ססס	Amen, amen, amen. Sela, sela, sela.



Inscription 22

Discovered in 1894, at the corner of Alagút and Pauler streets, on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery in Buda.

Height: 95 cm; width: 80 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 643.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: AÉ, XV, 1895, 221-2; idem, MGWJ, XXXIX, 1895, 307-08; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 47.

Photographs: AÉ, XV, 1895, 221; BpR, V, 1897, 49.

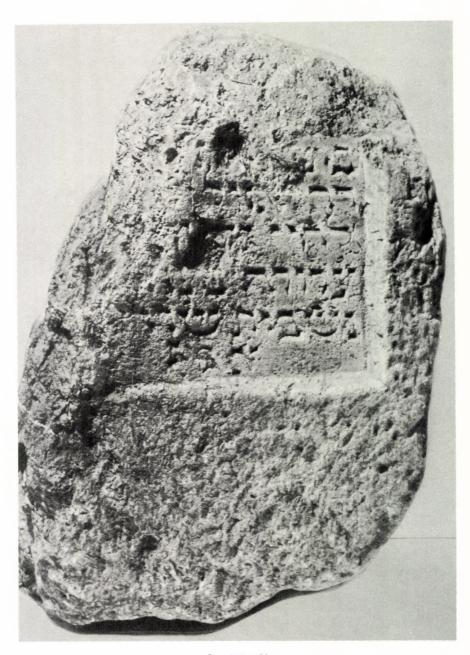
# REMARKS:

Line 3: לפרט, denotes the major era, which includes the millennia.

Line 4: אמן אמן אמן סלה סלה סלה מלה אוא . This formula can be seen for example in Worms: L. Lewysohn: נפשות צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 27, No. 16; 31, No. 17; 32, No. 19; 34, No. 20; 35, No. 21; 40, No. 22; 48, No. 28; 92, No. 59; 111, No. IX. Regarding the three repetitions of אמן סלה כל. F. Cantera and J.M. Millás: Las Inscripciones Hebraicas de España, Madrid, 1956, 41, No. 15. The formula אמן סלה continued to be used after the Middle Ages and appears in places even in the 18th century. See Florence Guggenheim-Grünberg: Der Friedhof auf der Judeninsel im Rhein bei Koblenz, Zurich, 1956, 32, Nos. 1, 3a, 6; 33, Nos. 9, 10. See G. Scholem: Tarbiz, L, 1980–81, 268, 278.

23.

# SEPTEMBER 4, 1350 daughter [of] ..., his memory [is blessed],



Inscription 23

Departed at New Year......

[תהא נפשה] לחׁייֹ גֹן [עד]ן [תהא נפשה]

for life in the garden of [Ede]n. [May her soul be]

bound up in the bond of the souls of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and [Leah].

Amen.

It has a wide border and a high pedestal, both typical of the Middle Ages. Discovered in 1897, at the corner of Roham and Attila streets. In 1932 it was removed from the Jewish cemetery in the Víziváros district to where it is now.

Height: 70 cm; width: 50 cm; thickness: 36 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

The text is published here for the first time.

Reference: D. Kaufmann: Pester Lloyd, XLV, 1898, No. 69.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: אזלת, would correctly be אזיל.

Line 3: The words [3] win? give the date: 1350. See E.L. Rapp and O. Böcher: Die ältesten hebräischen Inschriften Mitteleuropas in Mainz, Worms und Speyer, Mainz, 1959, 37. The phrase also occurs elsewhere: 150 ans de judaïsme belge, Antwerp-Brussels, 1980, 55.

Line 5: שרה רבקה רחל ולאה שרה. This phrase appears on a gravestone in Cividale del Friuli (Z. Avneri: *Tarbiz*, XXXI, 1961–2, 294).



Inscription 24

# NOVEMBER 6-DECEMBER 4, 1393

אנד כסליו שנת קנד Kislev, in the 154th year [1393], according to the major era, in the sixth millennium. May his soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1895, on a plot between Alagút and Roham streets, on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery of Buda. The lines are scored.

Height: 65 cm; width: 48 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the corridor on the ground floor of the Hungarian National Museum.

Inventory No. 118/1895.

# LITERATURE:

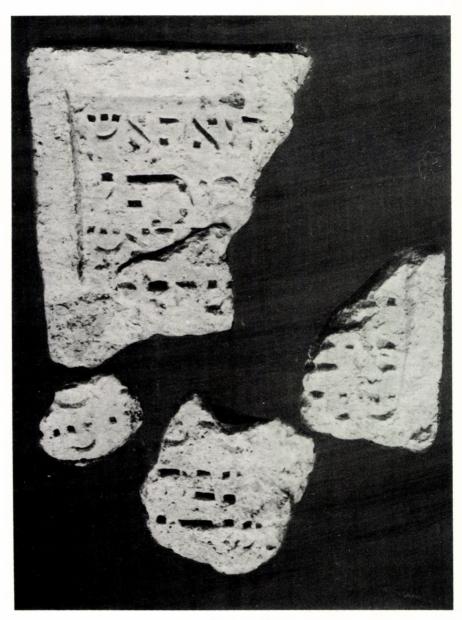
Text publications: D. Kaufmann: *MGWJ*, XL, 1896, 84–5; M. Weisz: *BpR*, V, 1897, 48.

Reference: D. Kaufmann: Pester Lloyd, XLII, 1895, No. 223.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: השישו: written plene, as on Gravestone No. 21.

Same line: מוצבה: phrase from I Samuel xxv. 29. It was used on gravestones as early as Ancient Times. See J.-B. Frey: CIJ, I, Rome-Paris, 1936, 474, No. 661; II, Rome, 1952, 442, No. 1534, cf. L. Blau: Annuario di Studi Ebraici, II, Rome, 1938, 68–9. From the Middle Ages onwards it appears very frequently. See, for example, L. Lewysohn: צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 45, No. 26; 47, No. 27, etc. The phrase has been identified by O. Eissfeldt: Der Beutel der Lebendigen, Berlin, 1960. The history of it was written by M.



Inscription 25

Vogelmann: Sinai, XLIX, 1961, No. 9, 176-80. In the Middle Ages it first featured on a gravestone from Venosa, in 822: C. Colafemmina: Rassegna Mensile di Israel, XLIII, 1977, 261-3; A. Scheiber: AOH, XXXII, 1978, 123.

25.

# **FEBRUARY 14, 1405**

האבן הואת אש This stone אשר שמתי which I have placed מצבה לראש as a memorial column over the head [בעלי] ר' יצחק בר' of [my husband], R. Isaac, the son of R. ... [שנפטר] ונקבר פה ... [who died] and was buried here, ביום [פורים] שני on the 2nd day of [Purim], שנת...קללה in the year of .... the curse [165/1405]. [תנצ]בה [May his soul be bound up] in the bond of life.

The stone shattered while being lifted out. It was put together, but is now in pieces again, and so I was unable to check the reading of every letter.

Discovered in 1895, on a plot between Alagút and Roham streets, on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery of Buda.

Height: 1.50-1.60 cm; width: 65 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 632.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 86; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 50.

References: D. Kaufmann: Pester Lloyd, XLII, 1895, No. 223.



Inscription 26

#### REMARKS:

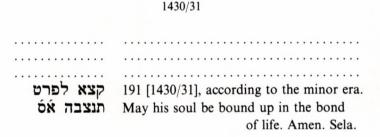
Line 1: A phrase from Genesis (xxviii, 22,) which often features on medieval gravestones. See L. Lewysohn: נפשות צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 24, No. 13; 31, No. 17; 34, No. 20; L. Levy: 'Die ältesten Grabsteine in Mähren.' Die Juden und Judengemeinden Mährens in Vergangenheit und Gegenwart, Brno, 1929, 24, 27, 28.

Same line: **TX**: are the first two letters of the first word in the following line, used by the mason to fill the line out.

Line 6: פורים: my addition.

Line 7: The date is given by the dotted word קללה (curse): 165 [1405].

26.



Discovered in 1895, on a plot between Alagút and Roham streets, on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery in Buda.

Height: 105 cm; width: 79 cm; thickness: 25 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: *MGWJ*, XL, 1896, 85–6; M. Weisz: *BpR*, V, 1897, 49.

Reference: D. Kaufmann: Pester Lloyd, XLII, 1895, No. 223.



Inscription 27

# REMARKS:

Line 1: לפרט: according to the minor era: the millennia are not given.

Line 2: DX. See the last line of Stone 22.

27.

# JULY 17, 1492

פה נטמו האש	Here is concealed the good
החש[וב]ה	woman
בת ר חיים זל	daughter of R. Hayyim, his memory is blessed.
כַב תמח : רבים	On the 22nd of Tammuz in 252 [1492]
לפרט לאלף	according to the major era, in the sixth
השישי תווצבה	millennium. May her soul be bound up in the bond
	of life
× ×L	

: אמֹ: אמֹ forever. Amen.

The surface of the stone has been badly chipped. Discovered in 1898, on the site of 56 Attila utca. Height: 151 cm; width: 61 cm; thickness: 42 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 118.

#### LITERATURE:

The text is published here for the first time.

Reference: D. Kaufmann: Pester Lloyd, XLV, 1898, No. 69.

# REMARKS:

Line 4: רבים = many. The numerical value of these letters gives the date: 1492. It conceals a reference to Daniel xii.2, which speaks of resurrection. Kaufmann read it as 1482. From 1492, we have knowledge of the Jewish



Inscription 28

cemetery in Buda. Prince János Corvin had the Turkish prisoners beheaded "vnnd die kopffe liess er auf der Juden kirchhoff schüden vnnd die raben fressen" ("he had the heads scattered in the Jewish cemetery to be eaten by the ravens"). See Erlebnisse eines deutschen Landsknechts (1484–1493) von ihm selbst beschrieben, ed. W. J. A. Frh. v. Tettan, Erfurt, 1869, 14–5; L. Tardy: MIOK Évkönyve, 1979–80, 410.

Line 7: לעולם ועד לעולם. Unusual on a gravestone (cf. Ex. XV. 18.).

Same line: on אמן compare Stones 22 and 26.

	[in pie]ce, under the throne of the (divine) glory.			
28.				

Discovered in 1894, at the corner of Alagút and Pauler streets, on the site of the medieval Jewish cemetery of Buda.

Height: 84 cm; width: 72 cm; thickness: 15 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 644.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: AÉ, XV, 1895, 221-2; idem: MGWJ, XXXIX, 1895, 307; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 47.

Photographs: AÉ, XV, 1895, 222; BpR, V, 1897, 48.



Inscription 29

## REMARKS:

Only two lines of the text of this huge gravestone have survived, and even of these only the last line can be deciphered clearly.

Line 1: תח[ת]: Kaufmann could not read it, although the word is clear. Line 2: The expression comes from II Samuel ii.8 and Jer xvii.12. It occurs frequently on other gravestones, for example in Worms: ופשות צדיקים. See L. Lewysohn: חתת כסא הכבוד תהיה נפשו עמודה. Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 42, No. 23. Literary antecedants: AdRN, ed. Schechter, 50; Seder Eliyahu Rabba, ed. M. Friedmann, Vienna, 1904, 18; S. Assaf: Zlotnik Jubilee Volume, Jerusalem, 1950, 165. Parallels to it: S. Saphrai: Eretz-Israel, V, Jerusalem, 1958, 212; E. M. Meyers: JQR, LXII, 1971, 104. It features in a letter by Yehosef ha-Nagid: A. M. Habermann: Tesoro de los Judios Sefardies, IV, Jerusalem, 1961, 58.

29.	
	in the sixth millennium.  May his/her soul be bound up in the bond of life

Discovered in 1947 in the house at 38 Úri utca. The medieval dwelling house that formed the core of the building was built in Úri utca in the 14th century. During the siege of 1686 it was partly destroyed and only the gateway and ground-floor vaults remained intact. The house was rebuilt in the 18th century with the medieval remains (M. Horler: Budapest műemlékei (The monuments of Budapest), I, Bp., 1955, 554). The Jewish gravestones may have been incorporated into it at that time. D. Kaufmann considers it absurd that stones should be dragged such a distance (MGWJ, XL, 1896, 87), but experience shows that far greater distances were covered in the search for proper building stones.

Height: 35 cm; width: 42 cm; thickness: 28.5 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 987.



Inscription 30

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 125, No. 1; idem: HJ, XIV, 1952, 147, No. 1.

Photographs: AO, II, 1952, 132.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: לאל השי: on this and its plene writing, compare Stones 21 and 24.

30.

| שכ[ב] | שכ[ב] | in ran[som] | לפד[יון] | prai[se] | | Betsa[lel, son of] | Etilian | Etilian

The border, the carving technique, letter size and the text unrelated to any form point unequivocally to the Middle Ages.

Discovered in 1957 in the house at 32 Úri utca, a site where two medieval dwelling houses once stood. In 1686, the northerly building was destroyed; the gateway of the southerly with its traceried sedilia and a part of the ground floor remained intact. It was rebuilt at the beginning of the 18th century, when the Jewish gravestones were incorporated into it. During the siege of 1944–5, a great part of the building was destroyed (M. Horler: op. cit., 546–8.). When the rubble was cleared, some of these Jewish gravestones were found (e.g. Stone 56).

Height: 49.5 cm; width: 21 cm; thickness: 15 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 57.154.



Inscription 31

#### LITERATURE:

The text is published here for the first time.

# REMARKS:

31.

Line 2: לפד[יון]: Psalms xlix. 9.

Line 4: בצ[לאל]: a Biblical name. Exodus xxxi. 2.

Line 5: בלוֹמא]: a German translation of the Hebrew name בלוֹמא]. See J. Nacht: סמלי אשה, Tel Aviv, 1959, 202. In 1573 it was found in Prague in the diminutive form בלימל (O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: Starý židovský hřbitov v Praze, Prague, 1955, 329, No. 96). It also occurred in Hungary during the time of the Turkish occupation, as will be seen on Stone 90 and the remarks on it.

פיב[וש ב ר]...[שנאסף]

Feiv[ush, son of R..., who entered]

eternity [five-]

thousand...

9th year [in the month of]...

[Amen, amen,] sela, sela.

Discovered on June 23, 1965 in the building at 38 Úri utca. See remark about Stone 29.

Height: 46 cm; width: 27 cm; thickness: 15 cm.

Now in the Lapidarium of the Budapest Historical Museum, 26 Táncsics utca.

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

The text is published here for the first time.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: פֿיב[וש] פֿרבוּ in Aramaic. See remark on Inscription 149. On a Prague gravestone from 1587 it occurs as רייבש (O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 459–60, No. 163; SBB. XIV, 1982, 14).

# **NAGYSZOMBAT**

(Trnava)

No serious monograph has been written on the long history of the Nagyszombat Jewish community, 73 even though the town archives have already been fully explored from the point of view of Jewish studies. No written documents concerning the cemetery have survived, but a gravestone from as early as 1340 is known. 74 In 1539, Emperor Ferdinand ordered the Jews to be expelled at the request of the inhabitants of Nagyszombat. 75 However, he was later obliged to send an order to Nagyszombat that the Jews who had not been expelled should be left unharmed. 76 It seems that in accordance with the general practice their graveyard was ravaged after their expulsion and the gravestones used for building material. In 1862, the Szered kapu was reopened and nine gravestones found in it, all dating from the Middle Ages. Those the Jewish community bought from the town council for 10 forints. The brothers-in-law of Lipót Sessler of Nagyszombat, Náthán and Ábrahám Wallach, who were born in Galgóc and living in America, put up the money to place the stones in the wall of the old Jewish cemetery. 77 When their text was published by Henrik Deutsch in AK, the editor added the following comment: "We are publishing these Israelite antiquities particularly because they are all among the oldest such relics in this country, because it seems Hungarian Israelites have so far taken little interest in their own archaeology, because foreign periodicals on archaeology often deal with such subjects, and because they shed valuable if but a little light on the history of an ancient tribe in our own land."78

The stones which had been built into the town gate survived for three and a quarter centuries, but after the Liberation, the sexton broke them up to serve as foundations for overturned gravestones of more recent origin. I was unable to find any trace of them despite a long search in which I was assisted by my friends

Emil Davidovič (of Prague), and Jenő Bárkány (of Bratislava). It is odd that no photographs should have been taken of them in over 70 years, and so I am bound to accept Henrik Deutsch's reading though I have made corrections in some places on the basis of suppositions. It seems that Henrik Deutsch himself had not seen the stones, only a transcription of the texts, since he writes: "Many thanks to dr. Vilmos Frankl [Fraknói], through whose good offices I received these inscriptions from a gentleman in Nagy-Szombat who is unknown to me.—I wish they were immured in a place where they would be protected from deterioration". The transcription must have been accompanied by a German translation, since Deutsch mentions it on one occasion. Unfortunately, the publication does not even show the lines into which the texts on the gravestone were divided. In style they greatly surpassed those of other inscriptions in Hungary.

We learnt (in 1962) that there were two more medieval gravestones on the site. One serves as the outlet for a spring in the courtyard of the town's primary school, and the other forms a step in a little trellis gate on the promenade. 81 Their texts cannot be deciphered.

32.

5

# JULY 18, 1340

כאן טמון | איש הגון | גביר נאמן | כ' ישראל בר' חיים | הנהרג בלילה על מטתו | מ[י]תתו תהי כפרתו | והשם ינקום דמו | כ'ב ימים לירח תמוז ביום ג' שנת ק' לפק

Here is concealed the worthy man, the good man,
Israel, the son of R. Hayyim, who was killed during the night
in his bed. May his death have its atonement.

May God revenge his blood. On the 22nd day
of the month of Tammuz, on Tuesday, in the year 100, according to the
minor era [1340].

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown.

No longer in existence.

# LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 105, No. 8. No photograph available.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: Some attempt at rhyme can be discerned, which is what I wished to indicate by the caesurae. גביר נאמן: J. Heřman: Jüdische Friedhöfe in Böhmen und Mähren, Prague, 1980, No. 2.

Line 2: 'D = てにこ.

Line 3: The source of מ[י]תתו etc: Sanh. 43b; L. Zunz: Zur Geschichte und Literatur, Berlin, 1845, 333-4.

Line 4: השם: On this phrase, which can be found on the gravestones of martyrs, see L. Zunz: op. cit., 334-5.

33.

# SEPTEMBER 4, 1376

מר לבי על הצרה | שבא אלי שכבה | נרי מעיני | שקברתי בתי | מ' יהנטא בת ר' יצחק שנת קלו' בטוב אלול פה דירנויא

My heart is bitter over the woe that has befallen me, that the light of my eye should have been extinguished, since I have buried my daughter, the lady Yehnte,

the daughter of R. Isaac, in the year 136 [1376] on the 19th of Elul, here in Dyrnau.

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown.

No longer in existence.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 105, No. 7. No photograph available.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: An attempt at rhyme can again be observed.

Same line: שבאה grammatical error for שבאה.

Line 2: מרת = מרת = a lady, woman.

Same line: 'הונטא': Jeannette, Jetty. The name occurs in Worms in 1296 in the form יינטא': (L. Lewysohn: נפשות צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 32, No. 19), in Prague in 1573, in the form יענטל (O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 330, No. 97). See also: B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 98. According to P. Mendel it originates from the word Gente, Gentille = comely (REJ, CX, 1950, 53). In the same way J.F. Gumpertz: Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 341–2. See also: A. Scheiber: A Májmuni Kódex (Codex of Maimonides), Bp., 1980, 17; S. Seror: REJ, CXL, 1981, 144 (in 1202).

Line 3: Deutsch reads it as קלד and translates it as 1377. Correctly it is קלו = were burnt (numerical value 1376), which is a hidden reference, along with the בטוב that follows, to Job xxxvi. 11 (a deliberate writing of ק instead of כ).

Line 4: בשוב = in good; numerical value of 19.

Same line: The town is written as Dyrnau instead of Tyrnau (Nagyszombat). That corresponds with Jewish pronunciation (Galanta–Galanda).

34.

1390

הבת שרי (?) שנת ק' ל'ך לפרט האם .....

The daughter, Sarah, in the year 150 [1390], according to the minor era, the mother...

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown. No longer in existence.

## LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 104, No. 4. No photograph available.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: שרה: the oldest form of the name שרה, cf. Genesis xi. 29. It is in any case an uncertain reading. Henrik Deutsch writes שדי and translates it as "rapturous", which is not justified by the shape of the word. Anyway, the name must come at that point.

35.

1394

קראו למקוננות / וילמדוני ק[י]נות / על אשת חיל כבנות / אמינו מרת ליבל שנפטרה קנד לפרט תנצבה

Call for the wailing women that they should teach me laments over the good woman who resembled the women of the Bible, our mother.

the lady Liebel, who died in 154 [1394], according to the minor era.

May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown. No longer in existence.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 105, No. 9. No photograph available.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: Here, too, rhyme can be noticed.

Same line: קראו: Jeremiah ix. 16; וילמדוני: Jeremiah ix. 19; ק[י]נות : Z. Avneri: PAAJR, XXXIII, 1965, Hebrew part: 11, No. 2.

Line 2: אשת חיל: Proverbs xxxi. 10; רבנות: reference to Proverbs xxxi. 29 (M. Richtmann: AT. IX, 1962, 139).

Line 3: ליבל = Liebel, a diminutive of Liebe. See L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 49; B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 98. In Prague the forms ליפט and סכיבר, cf. O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 267–8, No. 70; 463–4, No. 195.

36.

1396

הלכה לעולמה ביום ויו האנֹק לא נעדר...... לאלף הששי ת'נצ'ב'ה'

She returned to eternity on Friday, (in the year of) the unceasing "wailing" [156 = 1396], in the sixth millennium. May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown. No longer in existence.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 105, No. 5. No photograph available.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: the numerical value of  $\vec{r}$  is 1396. Henrik Deutsch writes 1391, even though he writes out the abbreviation mark after  $\vec{n}$ , which is a sign that it should also be counted into the date. Deutsch then adds: "This expression clearly indicates that the year 1391 was a baleful one for the Jews of Nagyszombat as well. In 1391 there were great persecutions of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia." His reading and conclusions were adopted by S. Kohn (A zsidók története Magyarországon (History of the Jews in Hungary), 1884, 173) and S. Büchler (A zsidók története Budapesten (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 41). It serves as a warning on how an erroneous reading can find its way into print and then continue to mislead.

37.

אבן הזאת אשר שמתי מצבה
On the other side:
כאן נקבר' אסתר בת ר' דוד הנל
This stone which I have placed as a memorial column

^	. 1	. 1	
()n	the	other	side

Here is	buried	Esther,	the	daughter	of R.	David
				ment	tioned	above

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown.

No longer in existence.

# LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 104, No. 1. No photograph available.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: The first word would correctly be האבן. For this opening formula see Stone 25.

Line 2: נקבר: the abbreviation mark has to be added, since it would sound in its entirety גקברת. Henrik Deutsch erroneously writes and punctuates גּיִקבּר.

Same line: הנזכר לעיל – the abbreviation of הנזכר לעיל.

The stone is clearly the joint gravestone of David the father and Esther his daughter.

38.

	אברהם	נאמן / ר	נטמן / גביר	כאן
ere is co	ncealed t	he good m	nan, R. Abral	ham
			nan, R. Abral	

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown.

No longer in existence.

# LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 105, No. 6. No photograph available.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: The attempt at rhyme is again obvious.

39.

אוי לי על שברי / לוקח עצם מבשרי / אוי לי על שברי / לוקח עצם מבשרי / Woe is to me for my break, the bone has been taken away from my body.

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown. No longer in existence.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 104, No. 3. No photograph available.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: Rhyme can again be discerned. The first half-line hints at Jeremiah x.19, and the second at Genesis ii.23. It is apparent from the second half-line that the husband is bewailing his wife, and so Henrik Deutsch's supposition that "it presumably refers to a death suffered by violence" is quite unfounded.

40.

	ומר[ה]	גדלה	כי	צעקתי	יללה	ואבוי	אוי
Woe, woe,	bewailing,	for my	lan	nentation	is grea	t and b	itter

Discovered in 1862 in the Szered kapu at Nagyszombat. Dimensions unknown. No longer in existence.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: H. Deutsch: AK, VI, 1866, 104, No. 2. No photograph available.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: Rhyming can again be observed.

Same line: [מר[ה]: Henrik Deutsch reads this as ומר[ה], which is grammatically impossible; in any case it is a direct quotation from Genesis xxvii. 34, where it stands in this form. The rhyming, too, confirms my complement. H. Deutsch's translation is entirely faulty and senseless: "Ah and woe! Grieving I bewail, for it is great and bitter". It is almost incredible that an otherwise good scholar of Hebrew should so utterly misunderstand such a simple sentence.

10 Scheiber 145



A view of the Jewish cemetery at Szakolca

### **SZAKOLCA**

(Skalica)

In one of his responsa of 1814, the Pozsony Rabbi Moses Sofer wrote the following in answer to a question from a certain R. Elija: "You wish to know my modest opinion on the case of the Cohen who went into the courtyard of a non-Jew, and there in the paving of the courtyard caught sight of a gravestone. Having turned it over, he found the following inscription on it: פה נטמן איש הגון ר' זכרי בן ר' ידידי נפטר בעיהכ קנ'ט לפ'ק. So that stone therefore is more than 415 years old, and the owner of the courtyard states that he knows by oral tradition handed down from his ancestors that in and around the courtyard there was once a Jewish graveyard, against which we (i.e. the Jews) can cite our tradition that Jews only settled in this area in recent times; Jews have been living here for a hundred years at most; so the question is how the Cohens should act in this matter, and whether they are allowed to step into the courtyard in question, seeing that there may be graves there" (חתם סופר, II, Preßburg, 1841, 144a, Yore Dea, No. 337). Moses Sofer's answer shows a sense of history. He replied there had been large Jewish villages in that area from which the Jews had been expelled in the Middle Ages, and that they had only resettled there in recent times. "That village too," he continues, "must certainly be among those where Jews once lived and from which they were expelled."

According to Sándor Büchler, the one who put the question was Elija Rosenthal, the book factor to the Buda University Hebrew press, who was reporting to Pozsony on a find in Buda. "So the responsum of the Hatam Sofer has preserved an epitaph for us from the former Jewish graveyard in Buda." 82

Scholars have failed to realize that the problem was solved more than 70 years ago by Samuel Klein, who later became a professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.<sup>83</sup> He proved that the person who put the question was R. Elija, rabbi of Szakolca. When he enquired, the gravestone was searched for and found in the Jewish graveyard at Szakolca by the Szakolca cantor, Jakab Neumann, who copied the inscription on it. His copy tallies essentially with that quoted in the responsum of Moses Sofer.

The earliest mention of a Jew in Szakolca is from 1406.84 The name Szakolca later features in a decision made by Krohmal Menahem Mendel, the rabbi of Nikolsburg, in 1648.85 The existence of the old Jewish settlement is also born out by the Hebrew binding boards in the libraries of the Jesuits and the Franciscans in Szakolca.86



Inscription 41

Nothing further was heard of the gravestone for 50 years. However, after a lengthy correspondence, I succeeded in locating it. At my request, Robert Neumann of Bratislava visited Szakolca. In his letter of July 17, 1960, he gave a detailed report of how he had found the stone: "There are two Jewish cemeteries in Szakolca. In the newer one only fragments are to be found. The old cemetery is situated in a sheltered location: the back of it runs by the old town wall, while to the right there stands a bastion-like fortress or tower for storing gunpowder. The little ritual house has no gate or walls, and only the cellar bricks have survived... After a four-hour search with some helpers, I found the gravestone inside—on the basis of the text you sent. It was 35 centimetres into the ground, but otherwise in good condition." He took an excellent photograph of the stone, from which it can be seen that both the previous publications of the text were inaccurate and faulty, as will be pointed out in our remarks. It has a broad oval border, typical of the Middle Ages. The letters are large but not fine, and uneven. One letter has been engraved into the frame.

41.

5

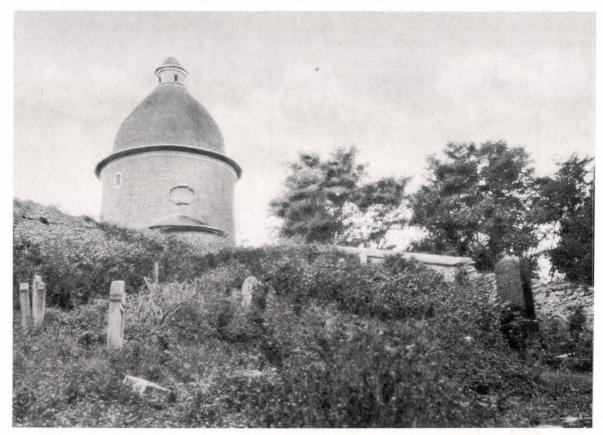
# SEPTEMBER 20, 1398

פה	Here
טמון איש	has been concealed the worthy
הגון ה זכרי	man R. Zechariah,
בן הר ידידיה	the son of R. Yedidyah,
ביום וֹ בערב	on Friday, at the time of Erev
יום כיפור	Yom Kippur,
קַנט לפ	in 159 [1398], according to the minor era.
άἴἔčň	May his soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1814 in the courtyard of a house in Szakolca. Height: 1 metre; width: 50 cm; thickness: 30 cm. Now in the old Jewish cemetery at Szakolca. The first photograph of it appears in this book.



A view of the Jewish cemetery at Szakolca



A view of the Jewish Cemetery at Szakolca

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: Moses Sofer: מום סופר חוד, II, Preßburg, 1841, 144a, Yore Dea, No. 337; S. Klein: Egyenlőség, XXIX, 1910, No. 45.

References: W. Bacher: 'Századunk első feléből', MZsSz, IX, 1892, 699; S. Büchler: MéJ, XXV, 1935, 207.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: Abbreviated by Samuel Klein: D'D.

Line 2: טמון: according to M. Sofer: נטמן.

Line 3: 5: according to Samuel Klein: 7.

Same line: זכרי: in Samuel Klein's version the abbreviation is written out in full.

Line 4: הֹלֹ according to M. Sofer: הֹ ; according to Samuel Klein: הֹ, as in line 3.

Same line: In the Bible Yedidyah is the surname of Solomon (II Samuel xii. 25). See J. Rosenfeld: *Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Fürth*, Sept. 1982. From the Year 1393 in Nürnberg. In M. Sofer's version it is abbreviated.

Line 5: ביום בשר in M. Sofer's version this is omitted and appears arbitrarily; in Samuel Klein's version the is missing, and as a consequence he arrives at the alien turn: ביום ערב יום כפור.

Same line: בערב: in M. Sofer's version it is contracted with the following words and abbreviated; in Samuel Klein's version: ערב

Line 6: כיפור in Samuel Klein's version: כפור

Line 7: Samuel Klein erroneously construes the date as 1399.

Same line: לֹפֿ : in both versions it is expanded: לֹפֿיק.

Line 8: Missing in M. Sofer's version.

### SOPRON

The Jewish cemetery at Sopron "was situated outside the castle walls, in the neighbourhood of the plots before Szent Mihály kapu, within a triangle between today's Jewish and the old Catholic graveyards, bounded by Tégla, Temető and Tómalom streets: part of it was between what today are the Bástyakert and the old St. Michael's Catholic graveyard."87 After the expulsion of the Jews in 1526, the parish representatives submitted a motion: "According to the unanimous resolution of the representative body, the graveyard of the Jews, along with its appurtenances, must be rased and rendered completely empty and free; and should the matter proceed towards purchase, there would undoubtedly be buyers. The representatives hope the honoured council will effectuate this undoubtedly needful proposal without opposition so as to forestall the Jews from selling severally."88 It seems that the council agreed to the proposal of the village representatives and had the gravevard made "empty and free". As we have already seen, the stonemason János was searching in the cemetery in 1539 for stones suitable for the building of St. Michael's Church, and he dressed and delivered four wagonloads of them to the church. This now becomes more understandable, as the church is in the vicinity of the Jewish cemetery. Obviously the other stones were also dragged away and incorporated into buildings, as was done at Buda, Nagyszombat and other places in the Middle Ages and even later, both in Hungary and abroad. In 1350, Jewish gravestones were immured into the Neubrücken-Tor in Münster. 89 After the expulsion of the Jews in 1420, the gravestones in Vienna were used for the foundations of new buildings. 90 For that reason, not a single gravestone has come to light from ancient and historic Jewish communities in Hungary, Miksa Pollák complained in 1896: "Not a single scrap has remained of the gravestones, which might otherwise have survived for millennia. Although the site of the old Jewish cemetery is known, I have been unable to find even a single gravestone, or indeed a fragment of one."91

The location of the cemetery has remained known through history and common knowledge. In 1664 the site was still known as the "Judenfriedhof". A Sopron citizen called János Csányi mentioned it as the "Judtenfreithoff" in his chronicle of 1684. The vineyards which lay around the Jewish cemetery retained their names: even at the beginning of the 19th century, they were still called "Judenweingärten". "Any citizen of Sopron can show you where the 'Jewish vineyards' are. The name of the area of vineyard is still alive among the people as

'Judengärten' or 'Judenäcker'. Various maps of the town of Sopron also mark it by that name."92

What is known of the gravestones? The Jews who were expelled in 1526 mentioned that the inscriptions in the graveyard had shown the graves to be those of their ancestors of 600 years past ("Cimeterium nostrorum maiorum, quod ante Sexingentos fuisse annos ex Epitaphiis nostris constat"). 93 That would mean Jews had settled in Sopron around 1000, which is scarcely credible. What one can say, and what suffices from our point of view, is that their oldest gravestones were still in existence at the time of their expulsion.

The British archaeologist, Jeremiah Milles, wrote about the neighbourhood of the Ursuline houses during a visit to Sopron in April, 1737: "In the courtyard of one of the neighbouring houses there stands a fragment, on which the she-wolf with Romulus and Remus is depicted in a relief, with a fragment of writing above it, with which nothing can be done. Above that there are a few, almost obliterated Hebrew letters which I was told could stand for Isaak Bar Benoah." That means a Roman stone was reused in the Middle Ages by the Jews as a gravestone, an occurrence of which there were two later instances in Óbuda. 95

The following can be read about the house at 1 Hátsó kapu: "In 1816, the carpenter Márton Hausenauer asked the town to allow him to use the rear gate for the building of his planned great house. The council accepted the proposal... However, despite frequent solicitations, building was not started until 1821, due to the poor economic conditions. In 1821, two stones with Jewish inscriptions were found during the demolition (Tjk. 130). The council's proviso, that the stones be mounted in the wall of Hasenauer's new house, was not fulfilled." At that time the Jewish cook read the inscriptions and deemed that they were from around 1100.9 More exactly, this means around 100 (the thousand is not always marked on Jewish gravestones and so was added to the cook's report, as the number was found to be too small), and adding 240 to that, one gets 1340, which is a highly probable date.

In the spring of 1944, when the Jews of Sopron were already in the ghetto awaiting their tragic end, the first Jewish gravestone found in the city came to light near the old Szent Mihály kapu, the site of the medieval Jewish graveyard, during the excavation of a cellar in Wieden, a suburb. The stone dates from the Middle Ages and was raised to the martyr Isaac b. Hayyim. It was taken to the basement of the Liszt Ferenc Museum in Sopron. Later, Fülöp Grünvald made the following proposal: "The medieval stone should be taken from the basement of the town museum and affixed to the memorial now being built. Let Isaac b.

Hayyim stand at the head of the Jewish martyrs of Sopron!"98 His proposal was not taken up. Today the stone is in the lapidarium in the vestibule of 11 Új utca.

As excavation and restoration is constantly in progress in Sopron, one can reasonably expect that further Jewish gravestones will be found.



Inscription 42

# 1411/12

Discovered in 1944, in the cellar of House No. 31 in the suburb called Wieden.

Height: 70 cm; width: 31 cm; thickness: 13 cm.

Now in the Lapidarium at 11 Új utca, built onto the 14th century Sopron synagogue.

Inventory No. 59.33.1.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: F. Grünvald: Darkenu, 5707 [1947], 15-6; A. Scheiber: HJ, XIV, 1952, 156.

Photograph: Darkenu, 5707 [1947], 15; A. Scheiber: A soproni középkori zsinagóga (The medieval synagogue of Sopron), Sopron, 1963, 9.

References: 'Megoldódott a soproni múzeum zsidó sírkövének rejtélye' (Solution to the mystery of the Jewish gravestone in the Sopron Museum), Soproni Újság, 1946, X, 19; A. Scheiber: SSz, XII, 1958, 292–3.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: אוֹה: הוֹ is not missing at the end of the line, as Grünvald writes, since the abbreviation mark can be seen above the **X**. Concerning this opening formula, cf. Stones 25 and 37.

Line 2: The mason omitted the letter  $\boldsymbol{v}$  from the word שמתי, but added it at the edge of the stone.

Line 7: מנקם: concerning this phrase, which is frequently found on the gravestones of martyrs, see Stone 32.

Line 8: Grünvald reads the last letter as  $\check{\beta}$ , but it is actually a contraction of the three letters of  $\check{\beta}$ .

43.

# יצחק ב"ר מנוח Isaac, the son of R. Manoah

Known only from the literature. Dimensions unknown.

No longer in existence.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: W. Kubitschek: Ältere Berichte über den römischen Limes in Pannonien, Vienna-Leipzig, 1929, 256-7; E. Csatkai: Idegenek a régi Sopronról (Foreigners on old Sopron), Sopron, 1938, 16.

No photograph available.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: Hebrew text carved onto the upper part of a Roman stone, of which the British archaeologist Jeremiah Milles wrote in 1737: "a Hebrew inscription much worn said to be Isaac Bar Benoah & (?) under it a broken stone" (W. Kubitschek: op. cit. 256–7). Benoah was obviously a mishearing of Manoah (מנות), the name of Samson's father (Judges xiii. 2). It also occurs on a Prague gravestone. See O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 200–1, No. 43. The

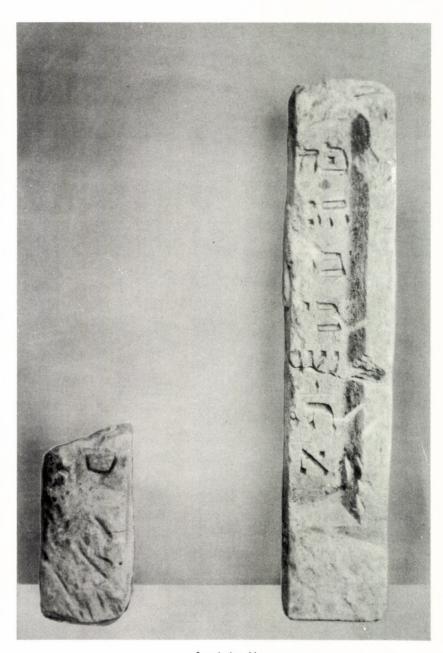
Nagymarton (Mattersdorf) Jew, Hisda b. Manoah added a clause in Hebrew to a document in 1438 (*MZsO*, VIII, 59, No. 34). Manoah b. Asher also lived in Hungary for a time (S. Büchler: *A zsidók története Budapesten*, Bp., 1901, 59).

In February 1960, news reached us that during renovation works on the building at 9 Új utca inscribed Jewish stones had come to light. All that had been recorded about that house was: "A one-storey late-baroque dwelling house with a closed courtyard built all round, with a rococo façade." During the renovation of the 14th century synagogue it turned out that in the northern wall of the gateway of the house at 11, Új utca there was a walled-up medieval doorway leading into the house at No. 9.100

The reconstruction work has now made it clear that two medieval houses stood on the site. Only the one on the right was connected with the building at No. 11. From the house on the left steps led up to the upper storey directly from the street, beside the gateway. Ornamented sedilia were also found at the same time.

From the dividing wall on the upper storey of the right-hand building fragments of medieval Jewish gravestones have been recovered. These stones were brought here from the cemetery abandoned by the Jews after their expulsion in 1526. They were carved up and turned into Renaissance window-frames. The windows were taken down in the 18th century and the frames used as building stones when the house was remodelled in the Baroque style.

There were press reports that "a fragment of a medieval gravestone with a Hebrew inscription has been found in Sopron in the course of renovation works on the house at 9 Új utca." I established on the spot that the fragments come not from one, but from three gravestones. All three were made of soft Fertőrákos limestone. Two of the three came from the workshop of the same mason, who scored in the lines before incising the letters. As the stone found in 1944 (No. 42) is also scored, they can safely be considered as the work of the same craftsman and in the absence of a date, this can serve as a guide to establishing their age. Scoring of the same kind can be seen on the medieval gravestones in Germany (Worms, Mainz, Speyer—E.L. Rapp and O. Böcher: Die ältesten hebräischen Inschriften Mitteleuropas in Mainz, Worms und Speyer, Mainz, 1959, Illustrations No. 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15). The surviving fragments show a formulation typical of the Middle Ages, but unfortunately the names and dates are missing. In June 1960, a fragment of yet another gravestone came to light on the same spot. On this stone there is no scoring.



Inscription 44

פה [נטמן איש]	Here [is concealed the man],
ויו, הג[ון]	the go[od],
בֿר [ונפטר]	the son of [He died]
בי[ום]	on the da[y]
שג[ת]	[in the] year
[řžžjň	May his soul [be bound up in the bond of life].
א[אא סס]ס	Amen, [amen, amen. Sela, sela], sela.

Discovered in February 1960, in three pieces, in the building at 9 Új utca. The lines are scored in.

Height: 130 cm; width: 19 + 24 cm; thickness: 20 cm.

Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

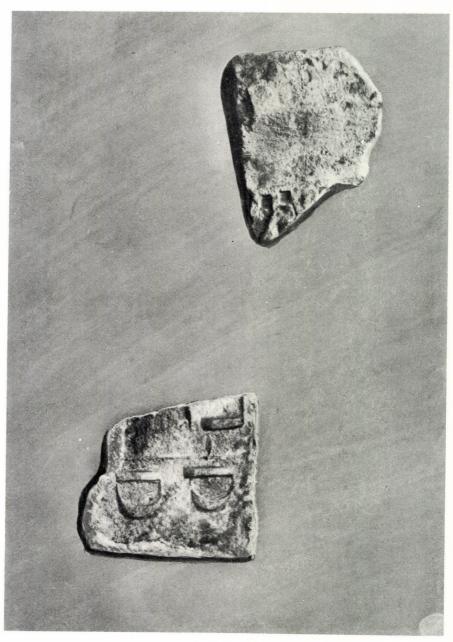
Text publication: A. Scheiber: SSz, XIV, 1960, 359.

Photograph: SSz, XIV, 1960, 358.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Középkori zsidó sírkő-töredékek kerültek elő Sopronban' (Medieval Jewish gravestone fragments have come to light in Sopron), ÚÉ, XVI, 1960, No. 8.

### REMARKS:

Line 7: On this phrase see under Stones 22 and 26. In addition to the literature already mentioned, one can also quote similar formulations on medieval gravestones in Eger. See S.H. Lieben: 'Jüdische Grabsteine in den historischen Ländern'. *Die Jüdischen Denkmäler in der Tschechoslowakei*, Prague, 1933, 24, Figure 3.



Inscription 45

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The carving style is the same as on the previous stone. Here again the lines are score 1. Both are undoubtedly the work of the same mason. One might easily take it for another fragment of the previous stone, as even the texts would fit each other well, but the letters are larger than on the previous stone.

Discovered in February 1960, in two pieces, from the building at 9 Új utca.

Height: 22+25 cm; width: 24+19 cm; thickness: 20 cm.

Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: SSz, XIV, 1960, 361.

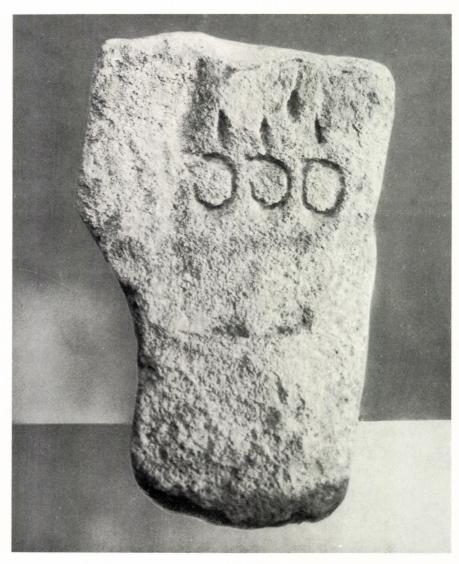
Photograph: SSz, XIV, 1960, 359.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Középkori zsidó sírkőtöredékek kerültek elő

Sopronban', ÚÉ, XVI, 1960, No. 8.

# REMARKS:

Line 3: On this medieval formula, see the remark about the previous inscription. On the two gravestones found in 1953 in Cologne (from 1302 and 1323) stand the words ĎŘ. See Zvi Asaria: Die Juden in Köln, Cologne, 1959, 74.



Inscription 46

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Discovered in February 1960, in the building at 9 Új utca.

Height: 35 cm; width: 23 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca.

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: SSz, XIV, 1960, 361.

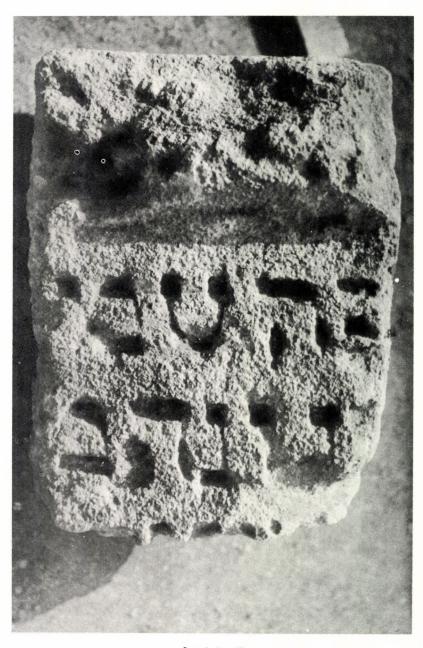
Photograph: SSz, XIV, 1960, 360.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Középkori zsidó sírkőtöredékek kerültek elő

Sopronban', ÚÉ, XVI, 1960, No. 8.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: On this medieval formula, see the remark about Stone 44.



Inscription 47

[	[	7	]	7	10	7	1	7.	וכ	7	اد	1	7		[	H	e	re	fa	is	it	h	o ]f	n	c	ea	al	[0	e	d	t	h	a	b	le	a	ır	1]	,	

Discovered in June 1960, in one of the partition walls of the building at 9 Új utca. It had been incorporated into a Renaissance window-frame.

Height: 30 cm; width: 22 cm; thickness: 25 cm.

Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca.

No inventory number.

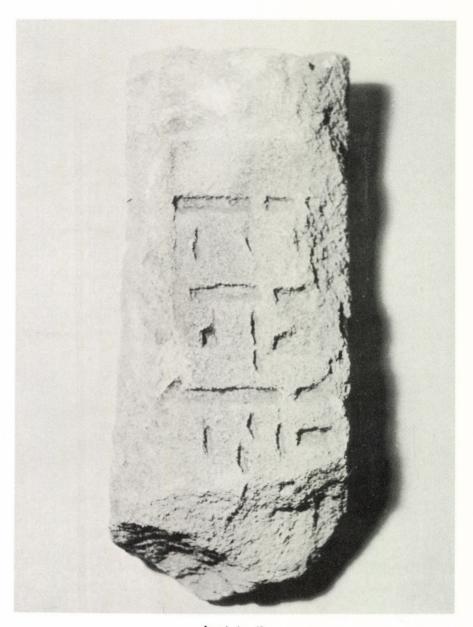
# LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: SSz, XIV, 1960, 361.

Photograph: SSz, XIV, 1960, 360.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: ונחמד Biblical expression (Genesis ii.9).



Inscription 48

[Here is conceal]ed ...., the daughter .... ... on the 25th

Discovered in 1961, at 9 Új utca.

Height: 44 cm; width: 21 cm; thickness: ?

Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca.

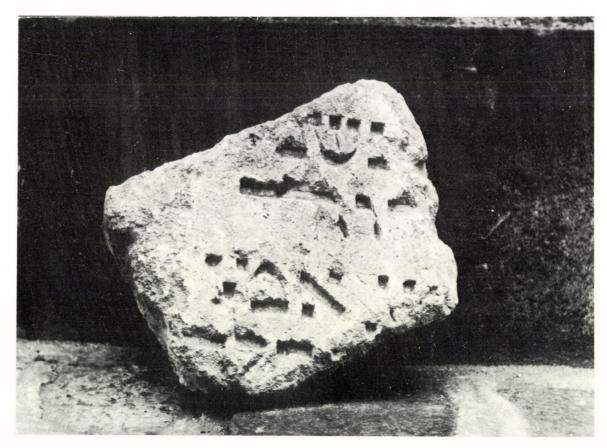
No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Hungarian translation: A. Scheiber: A soproni középkori zsinagóga (The medieval synagogue of Sopron), Sopron, 1963, 24.

### REMARKS:

The stone has a border, like the oldest to be found in Sopron. See No. 42.



Inscription 49

נשמ[תו] נשמ[תו] [from generation] to generation [may it not] pass. Amen, [amen, sela,] sela.

Discovered in 1973, in the wall of the house at 9 Halász utca. It had been used in the building of the house, which is near the suburb of Wieden, i.e. not far from the former Jewish cemetery. The street is first mentioned in 1421.

Height: 10 cm; width: 11 cm; thickness: 19 cm.

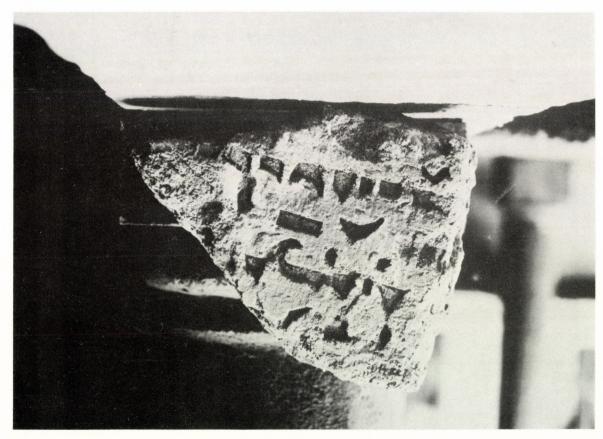
Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca. No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text first published here.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: Psalms x.6.



Inscription 50

ד' שמוא[ל] [ב'ר] זֹצֹל נק[בר]	

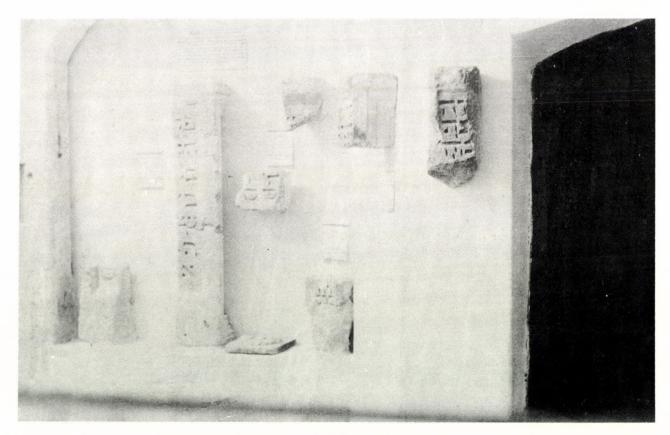
Discovered in 1973, in the wall of the house at 9 Halász utca. Hight: 8 cm; width: 10 cm; thickness: 11 cm. Now in the Lapidarium at the 14th century Sopron synagogue, at 11 Új utca. No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text first published here.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: צֹלֵי: Biblical phrase (Proverbs x.7). The text is already to be found on ancient gravestones: Frey: CIJ, I, Nos. 625, 629, 635; II, Rome, 1952, No. 892.



The Lapidarium at 11 Új utca in Sopron

- <sup>1</sup> A. Kiss: '11th Century Khazar Rings from Hungary with Hebrew Letters and Signs', AAH, XXII, 1970, 341–8, Table LVII; J. Boros and L. Rapcsányi: Vendégségben őseinknél (On a visit to our ancestors), Bp., 1975, 384; A. Kiss: Baranya megye X—XI. századi sírleletei (Grabfunde aus dem 10. und 11. Jahrhundert im Komitat Baranya), Bp., 1983, 196, 278, 305.
- <sup>2</sup> Gy. Rádóczy: 'Héber betűjeles Árpád-házi pénzek' (Coins of the house of Árpád with Hebrew letters), NK, LXX-LXXI, 1971-2, 33-7; A. Scheiber: 'A héber betűjeles Árpád-házi pénzekhez' (On some coins of the house of Árpád with Hebrew letters), NK, LXXII-LXXIII, 1973-4, 91.
  - 3 MZsO, I, Bp., 1903, 241-3, No. 194.
  - 4 B. Mandl: IMIT Évkönyve, 1904, 287-8.
- <sup>5</sup> Ph. Grünvald: 'Die Porträt-Siegel der Judenpräfekten Ungarns', N. M. Gelber Jubilee Volume, Tel Aviv, 1963, 291; D. B. Ruderman: The World of a Renaissance Jew. The Life and Thought of Abraham ben Mordecai Farissol, Cincinnati, 1981, 200.
- <sup>6</sup> A. Büchler: 'Das Judenprivilegium Bélas IV. vom Jahre 1251' in *Jubilee Volume in Honour of Prof. Bernhard Heller* (hereafter *Heller Jubilee Vol.*), Bp., 1941, 143. On old Hungarian synagogues see O. Komlós's compilation: 'Tracce documentarie di antiche sinagoghe ungheresi', *Rassegna Mensile di Israel*, XXII, 1956, 163–8.
- י הלקט , ed. S. Buber, Vilna, 1886, 47; Shibolei Haleket Completum, ed. S.K. Mirsky, Brooklyn, 1966, 276–7; S. Kohn: A zsidók története Magyarországon (History of the Jews in Hungary), I, Bp., 1884, 359–67, 405–8; F. Kupfer and T. Lewicki: Źródla hebrajskie do dziejów słowian in niektórych innych ludów środkowej i wschodniej Europy, Wrocław-Warsaw, 1956, 61–83; cf. A. Scheiber: AO, VI, 1956, 294–5; idem: Hebräische Kodexüberreste in ungarländischen Einbandstafeln, Bp., 1969, 102–5.
- <sup>8</sup> L. Rabinowitz: *Jewish Merchant Adventurers*, London, 1948; A. Scheiber: 'A Radaniták' (The Radanites), *Haladás*, V, 1949, No. 30; cf. J. Brutzkus: *ZGJD*, III, 1931, 102–3; A. Scheiber: *Geniza Studies*, Hildesheim–New York, 1981, 477.
  - 9 MZsO, V/1, Bp., 1959, 13, No. 12.
  - 10 Ph. Grünvald: Heller Jubilee Vol., 167.
  - <sup>11</sup> Gy. Káldy-Nagy: MIOK Évkönyve, 1979-80, 192-6.
- <sup>12</sup> L. Zolnay: 'The Medieval Great Synagogue of Buda', NHQ, VII, 1966, No. 3, 156–9; idem: BpR, XXII, 1971, 271–84; R. Feuer: MIOK Évkönyve, 1971–2, 43–61.
  - 13 L. Zolnay: BpR, XXII, 1971, 282.
  - 14 MZsO, VIII, Bp., 1965, 78, No. 59.
  - <sup>15</sup> A. Scheiber: *ÚÉ*, XVIII, 1962, No. 23.
- <sup>16</sup> T. Ortvay: *Pozsony város története* (The history of the city of Pozsony), II/2, Pozsony, 1898, 287; *MZsO*, IV, Bp., 1938, 332–3. The *Schola Judaeorum* and the Schul are substitutes for the synagogue. See N. Golb, *PAAJR*, XLVIII, 1981, 155–161.
- 17 MZsO, IV, XLVII–XLVIII. According to S. Krausz, the third synagogue was built in 1399. New York, 1955, 199. He does not back up his statement with any proof. An imaginary picture can be seen on a small print of 1591: S. Krauss: Preßburger Synagogen. Die Juden und die Judengemeinde Bratislava in Vergangenheit und Gegenwart, ed. H. Gold, Brno, 1932, 93.
- <sup>18</sup> T. Ortvay: op. cit., 322; MZsO, IV, XCIII; O. Komlós: Rassegna Mensile di Israel, XXII, 1956, 164–5.

- 19 MZsO, VIII, 155, No. 169.
- <sup>20</sup> S. Kohn: op. cit., 423; MZsO, I, 183, No. 143; J. Házi: Sopron... története (The history of Sopron...), I, 3, Sopron, 1924, 219.
  - <sup>21</sup> MZsO, V/2, 357, No. 6.
  - <sup>22</sup> A. Scheiber: SSz, XXVIII, 1974, 340.
- <sup>23</sup> F. Dávid: A soproni ó-zsinagóga (The old synagogue of Sopron), Bp., 1978; E. Marosi: ÚÉ, XXXIV, 1979, No. 3; K. Mollay: SSz, XXXIV, 1980, 85–6.
  - <sup>24</sup> A. Scheiber: Hebräische Kodexüberreste, 70-71.
- <sup>25</sup> A. Scheiber: SSz, XII, 1958, 289–98; idem: REJ, CXVIII, 1959–60, 79–93; idem: A soproni középkori zsinagóga (The medieval synagogue of Sopron), Sopron, 1963; M. Sallay and J. Sedlmayr: Magyar Műemlékvédelem (Hungarian Monument Preservation), 1959–60, Bp., 1964, 191–205. The repeated assertion that there are also "inscribed stone fragments" does not correspond with the truth. See Műemlékvédelem (Monument preservation), II, 1958, 176; L. Thier: Soproni útikalauz (Sopron guidebook), Sopron, 1959, 66.
  - <sup>26</sup> Ph. Grünvald: SSz, XV, 1961, 84-8.
- <sup>27</sup> Ber. 28b; A. Heimann: ופתנמים ופתנמים, Tel Aviv, 1933, 203; R. Krautheimer: Mittelalterliche Synagogen, Berlin, 1927, 191. The pictures of the synagogue published so far do not show the lancet stone over the Ark of the Covenant; cf. I. Genthon: Magyarország művészeti emlékei (Artistic relics of Hungary), I, Bp., 1959, 324; Dümmerling, Détshy, Császár and Kuthy: Magyar Műemlékvédelem (Hungarian monument preservation), 1949–1959, Bp., 1960, 104, 111. The first publication that presents it: A. Scheiber: 'Glory of Sopron', Jewish Chronicle, 5, II, 1960; I. Genthon: Műemlékvédelem, IV, 1960, 71.
- <sup>28</sup> Egyenlőség, XIV, 1895, No. 27; M. Pollák: A zsidók története Sopronban (The history of the Jews in Sopron), Bp., 1896, 177, 1; M. Grunwald: 'Mattersdorf', Jahrbuch für Jüdische Volkskunde, II, Vienna-Berlin, 1925, 405; F. Grünvald and E. Naményi: 'Budapesti zsinagógák.' A 90 éves Dohány-utcai templom (Budapest synagogues. The 90-year-old Temple in Dohány Street), Bp., 1949, 22; F. P. Hodik: Beiträge zur Geschichte der Mattersdorfer Judengemeinde im 18. und in der ersten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhunderts, Eisenstadt, 1975, 7.
  - <sup>29</sup> MZsO, XVIII, Bp., 1980, 451-3, No. 802.
- <sup>30</sup> E. Verdross-Drossberg: 'Florian Waldauf von Waldenstein.' Festschrift zur 450-Jahr-Feier der Haller Stubengesellschaft, Innsbruck, 1958, 19–21 (Schlern-Schriften, 184).
- <sup>31</sup> MZsO, I, 408; Hungarian translation published by A. Ballagi in Vasárnapi Újság, XXIX, 1882, 637-40; cf. I. Hubay: Magyar és magyar vonatkozású röplapok, újságlapok, röpiratok az Országos Széchényi Könyvtárban. 1480-1718 (Hungarian and Hungary-related leaflets, newspapers, and pamphlets in the National Széchényi Library, 1480-1718), Bp., 1948, 26, No. 95; A. Scheiber: Nyr., LXXVI, 1952, 394-5; idem: Aresheth, VI, Jerusalem, 1980, 227-230; A. David: Proceedings of the Eighth World Congress of Jewish Studies. Division B, Jerusalem, 1982, 64-65.
  - 32 S. Kohn: op. cit., 242; F. Grünvald and E. Naményi: op. cit., 21; MZsO, V/1, 87, No. 195.
- <sup>33</sup> S. Büchler: A zsidók története Budapesten (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 95; idem: Bloch-Emlékkönyv (Bloch jubilee volume), Bp., 1905, 175.
  - 34 MZsO, VIII, 203-4, No. 227.
  - 35 MZsO, VIII, 206, No. 232.
  - 36 MZsO, VIII, 222, No. 253.
- <sup>37</sup> L. B. Szabó: *Pest megye történetének okleveles emlékei* (1002–1599) (Documental relics of the history of Pest County), Bp., 1938, 24, No. 128; F. Grünvald: in *Heller Jubilee Vol.*, 168; *MZsO*, V/1, Bp., 1959, 11, No. 8.

- 38 MZsO, VIII, 168-9, No. 188.
- <sup>39</sup> MZsO, V/1, 184, No. 371.
- 40 MZsO, V/1, 184, No. 372.
- 41 MZsO, XI, 59, No. 32.
- <sup>42</sup> Zsigmondkori Oklevéltár (Archives of the age of King Zsigmond—hereafter ZsO), ed. E. Mályusz, II, Bp., 1956, 522–3, No. 4252; MZsO, V/1, 12, No. 10.
- $^{43}$  ZsO, Bp., I, 1951, 321, No. 2923; F. Grünvald:  $\acute{U}\acute{E}$ , VIII, 1952, No. 33; MZsO, V/1, 22, No. 40.
- <sup>44</sup> L. Crescens Dedek: *Monumenta Ecclesiae Strigoniensis*, III, Strigonii, 1924, 96; *MZsO*, II, Bp., 1937, 511, No. 6.
  - 45 MZsO, V/1, 14, No. 14.
  - 46 K. Mollay: SSz, XVI, 1962, 91.
  - <sup>47</sup> J. Házi: op. cit., II, 3, Sopron, 1933, 72; MZsO, V/1, 39, No. 93.
  - <sup>48</sup> MZsO, V/2, Bp., 1960, 408-9, No. 15; cf. A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XV, 1959, No. 12.
- <sup>49</sup> E. Csatkai: Sopron és környéke műemlékei (Monuments in Sopron and its environs), Bp., 1956, 402.
  - <sup>50</sup> D.J. Cohen: Zion, XX, 1955, 103-6.
  - 51 Idem: Zion, XXII, 1957, 68-9, 243.
  - 52 Z. Asaria: Die Juden in Köln, Cologne, 1959, 74.
  - 53 T. Ortvay: op. cit., II/2, Pozsony, 1898, 289.
  - 54 Ibid. 290.
  - 55 AK, VI, 1866, 105.
  - 56 MZsO, V/1, 193, No. 391.
  - <sup>57</sup> MZsO, VIII, 215, No. 246.
  - 58 Egyenlőség, XXIX, 1910, No. 5.
  - 59 MZsO, VIII, 86-7, No. 194.
- 60 D. Kohn: Egyenlőség, L. 1930, Jubilee Number, 81; idem: Hatvan év múltán (Sixty years on), Gyula, 1936, 207–12. Credit is given him by S. Krausz: קורות בתי התפילה בישראל, New York, 1955, 203.
  - 61 J. Nathan Káčer: in 300 Jahre Chewra-Kadischa Ilava, Ilava, 1929, 9; M. Lewin: ibid, 30-1.
  - 62 Ph. Grünvald: in Heller Jubilee Vol., Bp., 1941, 168.
- <sup>63</sup> D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 87; S. Büchler: A zsidók története Budapesten, 10–11; MZsO, III, Bp., 1937, 31, No. 22.
- <sup>64</sup> D. Kaufmann: AÉ, XV, 1895, 219–23; MGWJ, XXXIX, 1895, 305–9. See Zsidó Híradó, IV, 1894, No. 39.
  - 65 D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 84-6.
  - 66 D. Kaufmann: Pester Lloyd, XLV, 1898, No. 69.
  - 67 S. Kohn: IMIT Évkönyve, 1896, 62.
  - 68 Eredeti két magyar krónika (Two genuine Hungarian chronicles) Pest, 1833, 79.
  - 69 M. Zipser: Literaturblatt des Orients, 1847, 36.
  - 70 AK, VI, 1866, 105.
  - <sup>71</sup> S. Kohn: *MZsSz*, IV, 1887, 377.
- <sup>72</sup> S. Büchler: 'Az alapítandó zsidó múzeum dolgában' (Concerning the projected Jewish Museum), Egyenlőség, XV, 1896, No. 40.
- <sup>73</sup> S. Kaiser: *Tyrnau einst und jetzt, in Bezug auf die israelitischen Einwohner*, Tyrnau, 1885, 48 pages, quoted by Z. I. Tóth in *Magyar Történeti Bibliográfia* (Hungarian historical bibliography),

- III, Bp., 1950, 393, No. 24601; *Trnava*. Ed. J. Šimončič, Bratislava, 1980, 77-8; Y. Y. Cohen: *Sources and History*, Jerusalem, 1982, 213, 221.
  - <sup>74</sup> S. Kohn still considered this the oldest Jewish gravestone in Hungary: op. cit., I, 151.
  - 75 MZsO, I, Bp., 1903, 434-7, Nos. 352-3.
  - <sup>76</sup> L. Venetianer: A magyar zsidóság története (History of the Hungarian Jews), Bp., 1922, 53.
- <sup>77</sup> I. Gerő: 'Vývoj žid. školstva st. quo' (The development of the status quo Jewish school) in *Trnava*, 1238–1938, Trnava, 1938, 296.
  - <sup>78</sup> AK, VI, 1866, 104.
  - 79 AK, 105.
  - 80 AK, 104, Note b.
- <sup>81</sup> S. Kaiser: op. cit., 42–43. I have published a photograph of the first (Hebräische Kodexüberreste, 52).
- <sup>82</sup> S. Büchler: MZsSz, X, 1893, 122; idem: 'Magyarországi zsidó régiségek' (Jewish antiquities in Hungary), MéJ, XXV, 1935, 207. I myself took over this error of his: AO, II, 1952, 123, Note 2.
- 83 S. Klein: 'Magyar-zsidó múzeumi tárgyak—Egy szenzációs sírkő felfedezése' (Hungarian-Jewish museum pieces—The discovery of a remarkable gravestone), Egyenlőség, XXIX, 1910, No. 45.
  - 84 MZsO, IV, 50-1, No. 35.
- 85 S. Kohn: Héber kútforrások és adatok Magyarország történetéhez (Hebrew sources and data on the history of Hungary), Bp., 1881, 114.
  - <sup>86</sup> A. Scheiber: Hebräische Kodexüberreste, 28-32.
  - 87 M. Pollák: op. cit., 187.
  - 88 M. Pollák: op. cit., 187.
- <sup>89</sup> B. Brilling and H. Richtering: Westfalia Judaica, I, Stuttgart-Berlin-Köln-Mainz, 1967, 208-9, No. 212.
- <sup>90</sup> S. Krauss: Die Wiener Geserah vom Jahre 1421, Vienna-Leipzig, 1920, 130. Further examples: S. Eidelberg: Jewish Life in Austria, Philadelphia, 1962, 75; M. Markbreiter: Beiträge zur Geschichte der jüdischen Gemeinde Eisenstadt, Vienna, 1908, 13.
  - 91 M. Pollák: op. cit., 187-8.
  - 92 M. Pollák: op. cit., 188.
  - 93 M. Pollák: op. cit., 11.
- <sup>94</sup> The manuscript of his travelogue in English is preserved in the British Museum. See W. Kubitschek: Ältere Berichte über den römischen Limes in Pannonien (Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien, Philosophisch-historische Klasse, Sitzungsberichte, 209. Band, 1. Abhandlung), Vienna-Leipzig, 1929, 256–7; E. Csatkai: Idegenek a régi Sopronról (Foreigners on ancient Sopron), (Scarbantia, No. 2), Sopron, 1938, 16.
  - 95 L. Nagy: AÉ, V-VI, 1944-5, 118-34.
- <sup>96</sup> E. Csatkai and D. Dercsényi: *Sopron és környéke műemlékei* (Monuments in Sopron and its environs), 2nd e., Bp., 1956, 206.
- <sup>97</sup> E. Csatkai: 'Szerkesztőségünk házának múltja' (Our editorial office's past) Újsopron Vármegye, 1941, May 10.
- 98 F. Grünvald: 'Zsidó mártír sírköve a középkori Sopronból' (Gravestone of a Jewish martyr from medieval Sopron), *Darkenu*, 5707 [1947], 15-6.
  - 99 E. Csatkai and D. Dercsényi: op. cit., 295.
- <sup>100</sup> A. Scheiber: 'A feltárt középkori soproni zsinagóga' (The excavated medieval synagogue of Sopron), SSz, XII, 1958, 295.
  - 101 Népszabadság, XVIII, 1960, No. 58.

# THE PERIOD OF TURKISH OCCUPATION



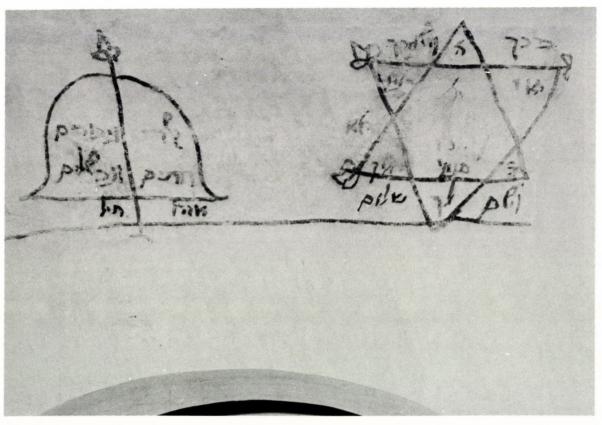
# I. SYNAGOGUES

Apart from the synagogues that date back to the Middle Ages, there are records of some more from the time of the Turkish occupation.

- 1. Kismarton (Eisenstadt). In 1569, mention was made of eight houses belonging to the Jews of Kismarton, one of which, at 5 Klostergasse, was the synagogue.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Nándorfehérvár (Belgrade). In 1663 Henrik Ottendorff records in his travelogue that the Jews of Nándorfehérvár possessed an unusually large two-storey building which also housed the synagogue ("undt in der mitten ihre Schuelen hatt").<sup>2</sup>
- 3. Sopron. In the 17th century, the Jews went into Sopron from the surrounding area to trade. They put up at the house of the hatter Kristóf Poltzer, which they also used as a synagogue ("hielten sie im hauss ihren vermeinte gottesdienst und ihre synagog"). Both uses were banned by the town council in 1659.<sup>3</sup>
- 4. *Győr*. The land register for the year 1567 mentions a Jewish street.<sup>4</sup> In 1669, Montecuccoli banned the Jews from town, allowing them in only at fair times.

The Győr cathedral chapter's account book No. V. for the years 1673–82, refers to a house in their possession as the synagogue. This may have been the synagogue set up by the Jews banished from the inner part of the city.<sup>5</sup>

5. Buda. Some of the Jews who had been resettled in the Ottoman Empire in 1526 ended up in quite distant places. For example, in the state archives in Constantinople a register for 1555–6, written in Turkish, records that 12 Hungarian-Jewish families were living in Safed at that time.<sup>6</sup> In 1567, the



Inscriptions 51 and 52

presence of 15 "Hungarian" families was recorded in the same town. According to the Turkish registers, quite a few Jews left Buda; some of them returned later from Istanbul, Salonica and Vidin. The Turks resettled Balkan Jews in Buda, probably including some from Edirne<sup>8</sup> and certainly some from Salonica (see Gravestone 148). These Sephardic Jews sought a separate place of worship, since their ritual differed from that of the Ashkenazis.

In 1663, Evlia Chelebi mentions that there were two synagogues near the Bécsi kapu. The site of a third, in the Víziváros district, also called Zsidóváros, is, for the time being unknown. The defter (Turkish tax roll) recording the income from the poll tax in the sanjak of Buda lists three rabbis in the year 1580–81 (Moses, David and Abraham).

Their synagogue was in a single-storey house (today 26 Táncsics utca) belonging to the Mendel family, members of which held the post of *Praefectus judaeorum* from the time of Matthias Corvinus, from about 1467 until 1539. The remnants of a synagogue's Gothic pillars were discovered in the walled-up gateway by Melinda Papp in the spring of 1964. The style of the pillars points to the turn of the 15th century. It is possible that the first fairly modest synagogue was built on the site by those who settled in the new Jewish street in 1365. The Mendels acquired the building later, leaving Buda after 1539, presumably for Nuremberg. The Sephardic Jews who came to Buda used the ground floor for their synagogue, thereby returning it to what might well have been its original use. It is known for certain that a hall in the house measuring approximately ten metres by five and oriented eastwards was rebuilt in the 15th century, and an upper storey added to it. 13

51.

In the ceiling secco paintings in red paint featuring Hebrew inscriptions have come to light.<sup>14</sup> These were fixed *in situ* by the restorer Loránd Sárdy.

The first picture shows a bow directed upwards, with a verse from the prayer of Hannah (I. Samuel ii. 4):

קשת גיבורים חתים ונכשלים אזרו חיל

The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength.

The Hebrew letters reflect the influence of the cursive Turkish writing of the 16th and 17th centuries. The inscription, which has been deciphered by the author, refers to battles in which it is hoped the Turks will triumph.

52.

The second picture is a Magen David, David's shield, with the text of the priest's blessing distributed over it (Numbers vi. 24–26):

יברכך ה' וישמרך יאר ה' פניו [אלי]ך [ויח]נך ישא ה' פניו אליך וישם לך שלום

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee;
The Lord make his face shine
upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:
The Lord lift up
his countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace.

This text was also deciphered by the author.

The depiction of the shield of David first occurred in Hungary in 1476, on the banner of the Jewish delegation that received Matthias Corvinus and his queen, Beatrix, when they entered Buda. The Latin text of the time describes it as having, "pes bubonis, quinque aculeis", 15 while the German description calls it "truttenfuess, Dauid wappen". 16

# II. GRAVESTONES

## **BUDA**

Sándor Büchler could find traces of the next Jewish settlement in Buda only from 1538.<sup>17</sup> This is all the more surprising as the Turkish register of Buda for 1547, now in Vienna, lists 75 native-born Buda Jews and 25 immigrants (obviously those who had settled there since 1541).<sup>18</sup> The earliest gravestone from the period of Turkish occupation dates from 1539–40 (No. 53) and shows that there may have been quite a number of Jews even before 1541 since they had to open a new graveyard at that time.<sup>19</sup>

Where was that second graveyard of the Jews of Buda? According to research by Fülöp Grünvald, "it was near the Jewish street, at the foot of the castle wall, on the eastern slope of Castle Hill between today's Hunfalvy and Batthyány Streets. The Ortelius and Rabatta maps show a cemetery there."<sup>20</sup>

In 1686 the Turks were driven out of Buda, and their expulsion meant the end of the Jewish community. Half of the around one thousand Buda Jews lost their lives and the other half were taken away from Buda in chains by the imperial forces. The inhabitants soon destroyed the abandoned graveyard, ripping out the gravestones and using them for building. Most of the stones seem to have been used for buildings in the neighbourhood of the Matthias Church, and some for St. Stephen's Chapel in the Matthias Church itself.

Ever since the last decades of the 19th century, Jewish gravestones have repeatedly come to light in buildings during repair and rebuilding work. A number were revealed in buildings damaged by bombs during the Second World War.<sup>21</sup> Further stones can be expected to appear as the houses in the Castle district are being successively explored and renovated.

Some of these stones were taken to the Hungarian National Museum, some to the Lapidarium of the Budapest Historical Museum,<sup>22</sup> and others to the Jewish cemetery in Víziváros, from where they were transferred in 1932 to the



The Lapidarium at 26 Táncsics utca

Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.<sup>23</sup> In the late 1960s, the hall opening to the left of the gateway to 26 Táncsics utca was converted into a Lapidarium, and 23 gravestones from the Middle Ages and the period of the Turkish occupation were placed there.

Naturally many stones may have been lost once and for all. Here are a few examples:

In a letter of August 30, 1900, Marcel Neuschlosz briefed Samuel Kohn about three Jewish gravestones that had come to light during the building of the Royal Palace of Buda. The letter, now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection, reads:

Right Reverend Sir,

During the building works on the Royal Palace of Buda, three tablets bearing Hebrew inscriptions were found; they had been set into the wall of one of the buildings now being demolished. The content of the tablets cannot, I think, be without interest, nor can the question of how and when they came to be in the castle. If your reverence should be interested in the matter, you may view the tablets at any time on the staircase of the contractors' office (directly beside the funicular railway); if your reverence should wish me to speak on your behalf to Professor Hauszmann, which I am sure is superfluous, naturally, I should gladly be of service to you; the stones are lying amongst other rubble from the demolition, and the professor would certainly be glad to hand them over.

Your most obedient servant.

Marcel Neuschlosz

Samuel Kohn wrote the text of all three gravestones on the back of the letter, and even that of a fourth, yet only three have come down to us (see Stones 85, 86 and 100); the fourth has been lost. According to Kohn's note, it bore the text: אות שצג i.e. it dated from 1633.

In 1959 a number of Jewish gravestones were taken out of the ground-floor walls of the western and the northern wings of the buildings at 2 Hess András tér, from where somebody carted one away in order to build it into a house under construction in a village near Budapest. I have been unable to track it down. Preserved for 270 years by the building into which it had been incorporated, it then disappeared before our very eyes. Several similar cases have certainly occurred in the course of time.<sup>24</sup>

In 1877, the following could be read on the house at 7 Dísz tér: "During rebuilding, there were found intact in a corner of the cellar several earthenware vessels that looked new but were Turkish in form; these the masons divided

among themselves, which was not so bad, but they also found carved stones with Turkish and Hebrew inscriptions and these they alas built into the walls, turning the writing inwards, and did so indeed out of religious contrition. By the time the clerk of the works notified the owner, Dr. Antal Jankovics, the valuable stones could no longer be prized from the wall."<sup>25</sup>

In 1700, Frantz W. Banowsky, asked the Executive of the Buda Chamber for the site of the Buda Jewish cemetery. At the end of the 17th century and in the first half of the 18th century, the Víziváros cemetery was behind the gardens beside the main road, where the Rózsadomb Café now stands, and it was used by the Jews until 1746. In the 1720s, the phrase Jewish cemetery even featured as the name of a baulk.<sup>26</sup>

From the memoirs of Mrs. Sándor Hegedüs, *née* Jolán Jókai, <sup>27</sup> we learn that in 1858, when the villa of the writer Mór Jókai was being built on Svábhegy, part of the wall was erected out of gravestones from the Jewish cemetery. The stones either came from the Víziváros cemetery or from the cemetery of the period of the Turkish occupation on the Várhegy.

Around Veszprém, "when the western railway was being built, a gravestone with a Hebrew epitaph was found near Jutas station; a Jewish cemetery may once have been there, indicating that Jews may have been living in the area around the castle, perhaps during the time of the Turkish occupation."<sup>28</sup>

All these stones have disappeared.

S.A. Rosanes, the historian of the Balkan Jews, writes that the Hungarian Jews who arrived in the Balkans from Buda had unusually large gravestones near Sofia, Plevna and Nicopolis.<sup>29</sup> It is fruitless to look for them today: "Unfortunately not one of the tombstones mentioned by Rosanes has been preserved."<sup>30</sup> The Jewish gravestones of Istanbul were described by a traveller as "underschidliche Begrebnussen".<sup>31</sup>

With a few exceptions, the inscriptions follow a unified formula that differs markedly from the medieval one, and so an inscription can be ascribed with absolute certainty to the period of the Turkish occupation even where the part of the stone bearing the date has broken off. The Hebrew they used is very simple and there are occasional orthographic errors.

From these inscriptions some conclusions about settlement history can be drawn. Besides the Hebrew names, mostly German names can be found, which indicates that the Jews who settled in Hungary after the Battle of Mohács were predominantly of German and not of Spanish origin.<sup>32</sup>

In 1895, Dávid Kaufmann wrote resignedly, "The crescent came down from the ramparts of Buda on September 2, 1686, and with it the flourishing

Jewish community there, with its wealth of memories and splendid past, perished and became a heap of ruins. It is rare in time of siege that the flames of a town's historic existence should be stamped out by the feet of the victors... The storm first smothered the lesser torches of the Jewish community. It blew the abodes of public worship from their places, and they disappeared without a trace along with the graves; not a single stone survived to tell the tale or render an account of what perished."<sup>33</sup>

Had he lived, Kaufmann would have been the gladdest to learn that chance and research work have belied his pessimism, and that 89 gravestones of the Buda community in the period of the Turkish occupation are now known, each adding a little to our knowledge of the Jewish history of the time.

Since many beautiful medieval buildings were destroyed during the Turkish occupation, it is small wonder that Jewish gravestones should also have been made from their fragments. Some stones were made of door and window-frame stones from demolished Gothic buildings (Nos 53 and 69), while another was hewn from part of a Gothic gate, with two Gothic blind traceries still visible on the reverse (No. 117).

The stones bring the community to life. The name of the rabbi of Buda, Simha b. Hayyim, who was active around 1570, features on the gravestone of his son (No. 61). We learn of a cantor with a voice like a bell, the son of David, who was presumably of the same calling (No. 109); and of Samuel, the *shammash* (i.e. verger), who buried his young son Isaac (No. 81). We also become acquainted with three elders of the community. The first is Leb, who came to Buda either from Lichtenstadt or from Nikolsburg, and married Freudel, the daughter of David from Aussee. The widowed husband pays rare tribute to her virtues.



Inscription 53

Judging from the fine large gravestone, he was the most well-to-do of the three (No. 87). The second elder was a scholar as well—the "well-reputed" Raphael Benedict b. Reuben, who was certainly related to the Benedict family that is referred to in Vienna in 1670 (No. 136). Of the third, we only know his name: Asher (No. 138). Besides these three elders, we read about other learned members of the community (Nos 68, 112, 120, 123).

The shades of the Middle Ages seem to return as the stones tell of the Jews murdered. Eleazar was a murder victim before 1628–9 (No. 66), and so was "the saint" Hayyim, the date of whose martyr's death cannot be established. His son Moses lived to a great age (No. 104). Naturally Cohenites (Nos. 85, 98, 139) and Levites (Nos. 55, 133, 137) were not absent from the populous community. One of them, called David, had the attribute "modest" inscribed on his grave by his assimilated relatives who used the Turkish word האקיר (No. 126). There appear good wives (Nos. 60, 105, 123, 139), young girls (Nos. 66, 69, 106) and boys (No. 115). Unfortunately, the inscriptions give no information on occupations or economic positions, and such references are rare on stones abroad as well. The only piece of information divulged is that the woman Pserli was a midwife (No. 80). From 1627, we have a father and his daughter, perhaps the victims of an epidemic (Nos. 64–65). An epidemic raged in Buda in 1678, which may explain the death of a married couple who rest together (No. 94). The Buda defter for the years 1550–80 offers some relevant information on some of the names.<sup>34</sup>

Now let us examine the inscriptions themselves:

53.

# 1539/40

שמואל בֿר Samuel, son of R. Yekutiel, his memory is blessed. 300 [1539/40], according to the minor era.

The stone is made from the frame of an aperture in a demolished Gothic building.



Inscription 54

It was discovered in 1959 in the house at 2 Hess András tér, built in the years following the siege of 1686 on the site of the destroyed Dominican monastery as a food store and bakery. By 1696 it was already completed [Miklós Horler: *Budapest műemlékei* (The monuments of Budapest), I, Bp., 1955, 358–9]. During the rebuilding, several Jewish gravestones were built into its walls. After 1784 the building served as a school, and until 1944 housed the Szilágyi Erzsébet Girls' Grammar School. Most of the building was destroyed in 1944–5; only the ground-floor walls of the western and eastern wings remaining. These were pulled down in 1959, at which time there came to light a great many of the Jewish gravestones which had been built into the building after 1686.

Height: 84 cm; width: 36 cm; thickness: 30 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.9.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 110, No. 1; BpR, XX, 1963, 470, No. 1.

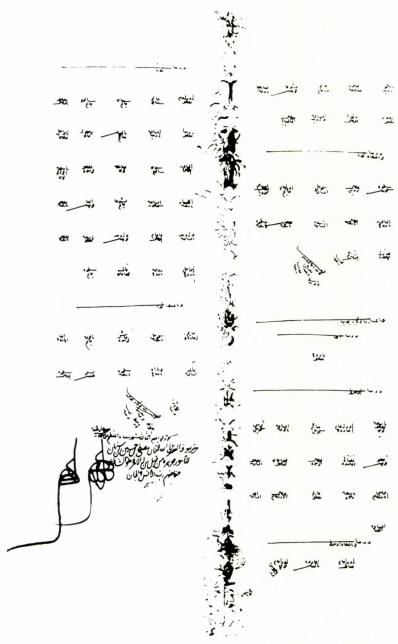
Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 120; BpR, XX, 1963, 470.

#### REMARKS:

Line 2: יקותיאל: A biblical name (I Chronicles, iv. 18) which also occurs in the Middle Ages, e.g. in Worms (see L. Lewysohn: נפשות צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M., 1855, 26, No. 14).

54.	156?
הרש[ל] [בר] זל נפ[טר] יט ני[סן]	Hersh[l], son [of R.] his memory is blessed, he di[ed] on the 19th of Ni[san]
שכ. [לפקוֹ	in 32? [156?] [according to the minor era.]

193



Conscription of the Buda Jews in Istanbul (1603)

It was discovered in the building at 11 Szentháromság utca. Before 1944, the building had been a single-storey dwelling house, with an altered Baroque façade and some medieval remains, the form it had gained at the beginning of the 18th century. During the siege of Budapest the house was destroyed except for its ground-floor walls and cellar. (M. Horler: op. cit., 592.) In 1969, it was rebuilt as the Fehér Galamb restaurant. In the course of the rebuilding, three finely carved gravestones were found in the cellar. They were taken there from the Jewish cemetery which was abandoned after the recapture of Buda from the Turks in 1686, and were built into the house.

During reconstruction, it also emerged that red marble gravestones had been used for the ten cellar steps. The Hebrew text on the 4th, 8th and 10th steps is still discernible, and a few letters are visible on the 6th. For reasons of statics, the stones have to remain *in situ*, but since the stairway is not being used (it is closed off with an iron chain) no further harm can befall the inscriptions.

The above inscription is on the 10th cellar step.

Height: 155 cm; width: 43 cm; thickness: 27 cm.

Now in the Fehér Galamb restaurant (11 Szentháromság utca).

No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

The text is published here for the first time.

Reference: A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXV, 1970, No. 9.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: הרש[ל]: Hirsch. It is more frequently found in the form הירש (O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 414, No. 141).



Inscription 55

# 1575/6

חיים לוי חיים לוי Hayyim Levi, his memory is blessed, son of R. Nathan Hallevi, his memory is blessed. מולו לפֿל מולו לפֿל (1575–6], according to the minor era.

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4–5 Disz tér. In the Middle Ages, there were seven smaller dwellings on this site. These were for the most part destroyed in 1686; the sites and remains of the buildings were purchased by the abbey of Kremsmünster, which soon after built a new house there (M. Horler: *op. cit.*, 321) into which Jewish gravestones were incorporated. Later the building housed the papal nuncio. It was severely damaged in 1944–5, and the Jewish gravestones came to light when the rubble was being removed.

Height: 62 cm; width: 48.5 cm; thickness: 17 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 977.

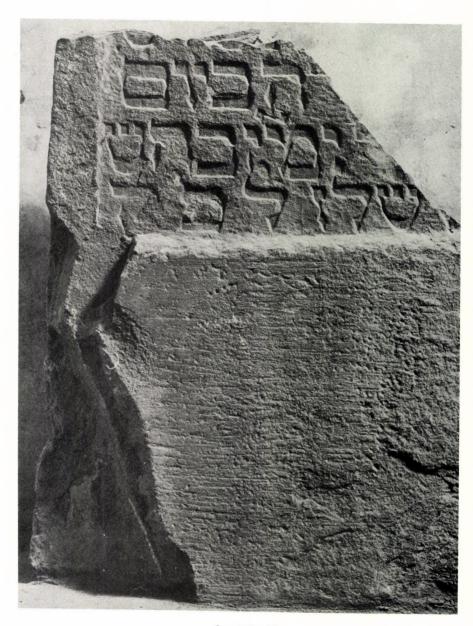
### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 125, No. 2; HJ, XIV, 1952, 148, No. 2.

Photographs: AO, II, 1952, 133.

#### REMARKS:

Line 2: גמן: Biblical name (II Samuel, v. 14, etc.). The man on the gravestone is the same person as Hayyim Nasan, who features in the 1559 register of the Buda sanjak (Gy. Káldy-Nagy: MZsO, XVI, Bp., 1974, 7). This is quite clear from the register itself, which reads, "Hayim, son of Nasan, married" [L. Fekete: Tanulmányok Budapest múltjából (Studies from Budapest's past), VI, 1938, 130].



Inscription 56

# **OCTOBER 9, 1576**

[Die]d [on Wednesday], the 10th of Heshvan, 337 [1576], according to the minor era.

Discovered in 1947 in the house at 32 Úri utca. See Stone 30. Height: 80 cm; width: 53 cm; thickness: 13 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 774.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 125, No. 3; HJ, XIV, 1952, 148, No. 3.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: בחשון = בחשוב.



Inscription 57

# FEBRUARY 6, 1586

שנה היקר אינה מאיר בל was buried the beloved
אור היקר היקר היקר היקר היקר אינה בל R. Meir, son of R.
אור מאיר בל אינה ישקב זל יה Jacob, his memory is blessed. On the 18th day of the month of Shevat in 346 [1586],
אור שני שוֹם שנים שוֹם [לפֿק תוֹצַבֿ בַ הַּ] [according to the minor era. May his soul be bound up in the bond of life].

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 42 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 17 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.38.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 111, No. 2; BpR, XX, 1963, 471, No. 2.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 121; BpR, XX, 1963, 471.

# REMARKS:

Line 6: DIW: The text has DDW, which is a spelling error.



Inscription 58

# 1586/7

[בֿר]. .... [son of R.]

Jacob, his memory is blessed.

In the year 347 [1586–
7], according to the minor era.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 43.5 cm; width: 35 cm; thickness: 18 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.50.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 111, No. 3; BpR, XX, 1963, 471, No. 3.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 122; BpR, XX, 1963, 471.

# REMARKS:

Line 3: The date is divided over two lines.



Inscription 59

## MAY 14, 1589

[בי]ום כח אייר שמט	on the 28th [day] of Iyyar 349 [1589]. [And her daught]er Hindil, daughter of Zev[i].

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 25 cm; width: 50.5 cm; thickness: 20.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 991.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 126, No. 4; HJ, XIV, 1952, 148, No. 4.

Photographs: AO, II, 1952, 132.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: הנדיל: A German Jewish name derived from Hinde or Hindin (a hind calf). See L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 58 (Hindel). In medieval Pozsony it occurs as follows: "Hendlin jüdin von galicz" [T. Ortvay: Pozsony város története (History of the city of Pozsony), II/2, Pozsony, 1898, 280]. Cf. D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 90, No. 4. מחקרים ועיונים; B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 70. P. Mendel gives an erroneous derivation from Hannah (REJ, CX, 1950, 53).

Same line: [5] = deer. It occurs most often as the attribute of Naphtali, who is described as a hind in the Bible by his father (Genesis xlix. 21). For its occurrence see: B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I, Vienna-Leipzig, 1912, 586. In medieval Hebrew poetry it is the attribute of a beloved boy, after the biblical example (II Samuel i. 19). Cf. J. Schirmann: 'The ephebe in medieval Hebrew poetry', Sefarad, XV, 1955, 55–68.



Jewish gravestones in the former Lapidarium at the Budapest Historical Museum in the Halászbástya

# **SEPTEMBER 23, 1599**

ד' [לחודש] תשרי שס'	On the 4th of [the month] Tishri, 360 [1599],
ואשתו חסידה אשת חיל עטר בעלה מרת	And his wife, the pious, virtuous woman, crown of her husband, the lady

Discovered in 1908 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55.

Height: 45 cm; width: 55 cm; thickness: 22 cm.

Present whereabouts unknown.

No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

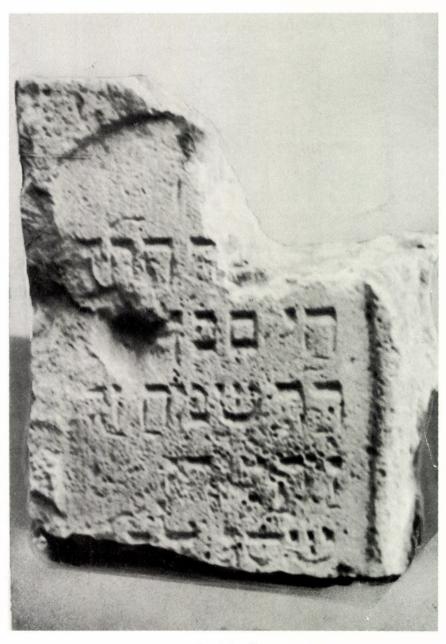
Text publication: M. Weisz: *MZsSz*, XXV, 1908, 289. No photograph available.

## REMARKS:

Line 1: The addition in square brackets is by the author.

Line 2: החסידה would correctly be החסידה.

Lines 3 and 4: Quotation from Proverbs xii. 4.



Inscription 61

5

# **SEPTEMBER 16, 1605**

[He]re

[אמר בו הח ר] [אור] [was buried] the learned R.

[אור] [אים בן [הגאון] [אור] [אור

There is a Gothic arch on the stone.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53.

Height: 44 cm; width: 38 cm; thickness: 29 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.25.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 111-12, No. 4; BpR, XX, 1963, 471, No. 4.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 123; BpR, XX, 1963, 471.

### REMARKS:

Line 3: הגאון: The addition follows S. Büchler [A zsidók története Budapesten (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 108].

Lines 3 and 4: The person commemorated was the son of the Buda rabbinical councillor Simha b. Hayyim. His name features in a Turkish tax roll for Buda from 1580–81 (MZsO, II, 39; L. Fekete: Tanulmányok Budapest múltjából (Studies from Budapest's past), VI, 1938, 132; MZsO, XVIII, 29). The father was active in Buda around 1570, and some directives regarding bills of divorce have survived of his writings (S. Büchler: op. cit., 108; MZsO, II, 35). In 1579 he is mentioned in a letter by a Buda pasha as "the priest Symha" (MZsO, V/1, 215, No. 435).



Inscription 62

# **SEPTEMBER 15, 1620**

פה	Here
נקברת מרת	was buried the lady
רבקה בת ר	Rebecca, daughter of R.
יוסף זל יו ימי	Joseph, his memory is blessed, on the 17th day
בחודש אלול	of the month of Elul,
שנת שוף לפוק	in the year 380 [1620], according to the minor era.
תנצבה	May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1913 in the block of buildings at 5, 7 and 9 Színház utca, which at the time was the headquarters of the 4th Buda Army Corps. King Béla IV founded a Franciscan friary there in 1270. Next to it, on the same site, stood the house of István Werbőczi, which was linked to the friary by a closed wooden bridge at upper-storey level. During the Turkish occupation Werbőczi's house was the dwelling of the Pasha of Buda. In 1686 both the pasha's palace and the former friary were destroyed. After the recapture of Buda the ruins were granted first to the Jesuits, and then in 1693 to the Carmelites, who slowly built a new monastery completed by 1734 (M. Horler: op. cit., 483–7). It was that time that the gravestones from the nearby Jewish cemetery were incorporated into it. In 1944–5 the building was severely damaged. When the rubble was cleared away and reconstruction work carried out on the building in 1949–50, further Jewish gravestones came to light.

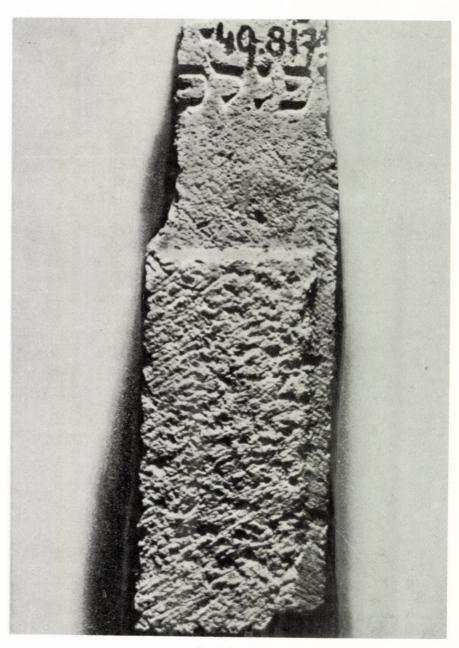
Height: 138 cm; width: 45 cm; thickness: 30 cm.

Now in the corridor on the ground floor of the Hungarian National Museum.

Inventory No. 1913/1 (number in Accessions Register).

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: E. Mahler: 'Ein alter jüdischer Grabstein im Ungarischen Nationalmuseum', *ZDMG*, LXVIII, 1914, 326–8. Contributions: E. Baneth (*ibid*, 720) and S. Poznański (*ibid*, 721). As the reading was erroneous, the text was republished by A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 270, No. 1; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 501, No. 1.



Inscription 63

Photographs: ZDMG, LXVIII, 1914, between pp. 326 and 327; BpR, XVIII, 1958, 501.

References: G. Supka: 'Interessante Funde. Ein jüdischer Grabstein im Korpskommandogebäude in Ofen', *NPJ*, XXIV, 1913, No. 304; *Egyenlőség*, XXXIII, 1914, No. 1.

### REMARKS:

Line 4: Mahler read it as אום היל, which he wrote out in full as מום ול יום לים אל, which he wrote out in full as מום ול Accordingly he had to explain why the dis missing from מום, and why the medial מום appears at the end of the word. To his erroneous reading he adds chronological and paleographical combinations with amazing subtlety. The same mistakes appear in the German translation published by Supka, which is based on Mahler. E. Baneth and S. Poznański corrected the error.

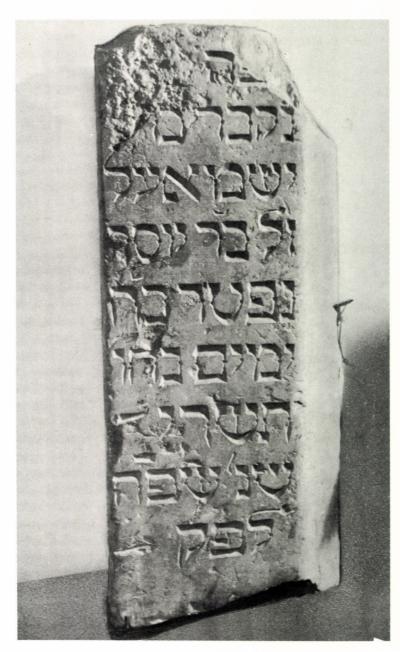
Line 6: Mahler read Tw and so arrived at the date 1544. The photograph attached is certainly misleading, but after cleaning, the stone clearly shows Tw. Accordingly the correct date is 1620. Neither Baneth nor Poznański noticed Mahler's error in reading the date.

63.

1622/3

[סב לפ[ק] [3]83 [1622–3], according to the [minor] era

Discovered between 1951 and 1953 in the building at 4 Hess András tér. In the Middle Ages three small dwelling houses stood on the site. In 1686, the upper storeys were destroyed, but most of the gateways and walls on the ground floor survived. Soon after the recapture of Buda, the three ruined houses were turned



Inscription 64

into a single building and a wing on the southern side of the courtyard was added. During the rebuilding, Jewish gravestones were incorporated. In the 18th century the building became a military hospital, and at the end of that century it was handed over to the university, which had been transferred to Buda from Nagyszombat (Trnava). Between 1810 and 1927, the building was owned by the University Press, after that by the Ministry of Finance. Following severe damage in the Second World War, the building was restored in 1951–3 (M. Horler: op. cit., 362–5), when the Jewish gravestones came to light again.

Height: 70 cm; width: 20 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 49.817.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: JSS, I, 1956, 271, No. 2; BpR, XVIII, 1958, 502. No. 2.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 502.

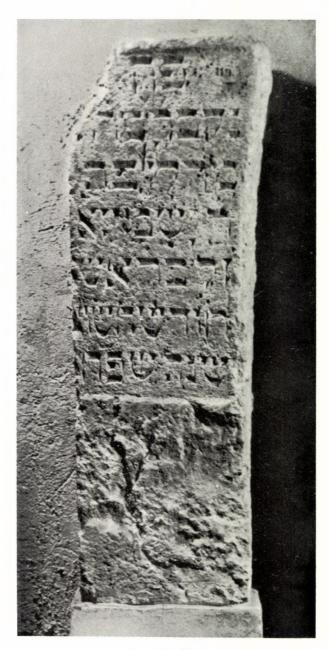
#### REMARKS:

Line 1: Traces of one or two letters in the previous line can be discerned, but not clearly deciphered.

64.

### **OCTOBER 8, 1627**

Here נקבר כ[ר] is buried [R.] ישמעאל Ishmael, זל בר יוסף his memory is blessed, son of R. Joseph. נפטר כח He died on the 28th ימים בחו day of the month תשרי ~ of Tishri, שנ שפח in the year 388 [1627], לפק according to the minor era.



Inscription 65

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery, to which it had been temporarily transferred in the latter half of the 19th century.

Height: 64 cm; width: 28 cm; thickness: 10.5 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

No inventory number.

#### .LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 271, No. 3; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 502, No. 2.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 503.

Reference: F. Grünvald: ZsSz, XXIX, 1934, Nos 12-13.

### REMARKS:

Line 3: ישמעאל: A biblical name (Genesis xvi. 11, etc.), erroneously written as ישמאעל on the stone.

65.

5

# OCTOBER 11, 1627

אפר פֿר מרת נקבר מרע was buried the lady אמרלי בת מרלי בת Merli, daughter of R. Ishmael, his memory is blessed, on the 2nd day of the New Moon of Heshvan, in the year 388 [1627].

The place and date of discovery are unknown. Height: 109 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 22 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 119.



Inscription 66

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: JSS, I, 1956, 272, No. 4; BpR, XVIII, 1958, 503, No. 4.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 503.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: מרלי: was a common name in Germany. See L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 66; B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I, Vienna–Leipzig, 1912, 472, No. 621. מעריל; idem: Die Grabschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Eisenstadt, Vienna, 1922, 300, No. 1094. מרכל: M. Grunwald: 'Le Cimetière de Worms', REJ, CIV, 1938, 82 (Merle). According to B. Klar it was derived from the name מחקרים ועיונים) מרים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 70). J.F. Gumpertz: Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 343, agrees.

Line 5: בורש הורש ב': for this reading I am indebted to the late Prof. Dr. M.A. Halevy of Bucharest, who sent me a letter.

Merli may have been the daughter of the Ishmael who features on Stone 64, in which case she died within three days of her father, perhaps in an epidemic.

66.

### 1628/9

יה] ברת י]לת ישראל נר]ה יוכבד   רַ אלעזר י ד זל ברח	[נ]ק. [בתו [הנע [בת]	[Here] [was] buried [a vir]gin of Israel, [the maid]en Yochebed, [daughter] of R. Eleazar, [may God] revenge his blood, his memory is blessed, on the
שפט		new moon of



Inscription 67

Discovered in 1948 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53.

Height: 76 cm; width: 30.5 cm; thickness: 21 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 989.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 126, No. 5; HJ, XIV, 1952, 148–9, No. 5.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 134.

### REMARKS:

Line 3: Quotation from Deuteronomy xxii. 19.

Line 4: יוכבד: A biblical name, borne by Moses's mother (Exodus vi. 20, etc.).

Line 6: הֹוֹידֹ On this abbreviation as an indication of a martyr, see Stone 32.

Same line: בראש חודש = ברה

67.

## NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1631

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Inscription 68

Discovered in 1932, in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 46 cm; width: 40 cm; thickness: 29 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 272, No. 5; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 504, No. 5.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 504.

68.

5

# **SEPTEMBER 24, 1633**

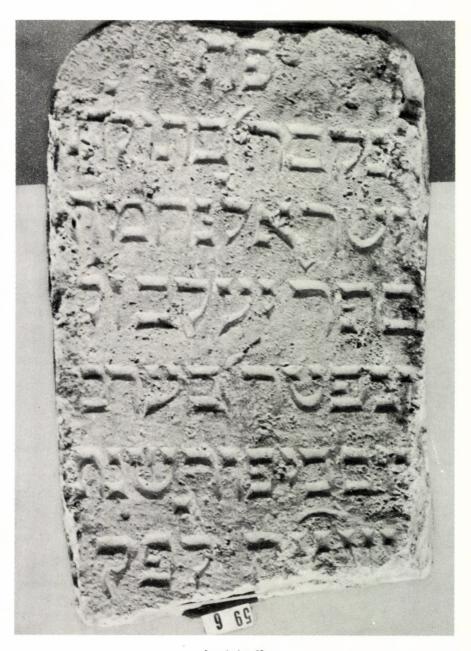
פה נקבר היקר כר יעקב זל בן מוהרר יהודא זלה	Here was buried the dear R. Jacob, his memory is blessed, son of our teacher and rabbi R. Jehuda, may his memory live on
כ תשרי שצד	through eternal life. On the 20th of Tishri, 394 [1633].

Discovered c. 1940, in the entrance to the former University Press at 4 Hess András tér. See Stone 63.

Height: 86 cm; width: 39.5 cm; thickness: 19.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 126, No. 6; HJ, XIV, 1952, 149, No. 6.



Inscription 69

#### REMARKS:

Line 4: מורנו הרב רבי is an abbreviation of מוהרר.

Line 5: אולה: העולמים. On this phrase see L. Zunz: Zur Geschichte und Literatur, 329–30.

69.

5

## **OCTOBER 1, 1634**

פה Here נקבר בתולת is buried the virgin ישראל נחמה of Israel, Nehama, בת ד יעקב זל daughter of R. Jacob, his memory is blessed. ונפטר בערב Died at Erev יום כיפור שנת Yom Kippur, in the year שצה לפק 395 [1634], according to the minor era.

The stone was made from a fragment of the frame of an aperture. Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 68 cm; width: 43 cm; thickness: 28 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.6.

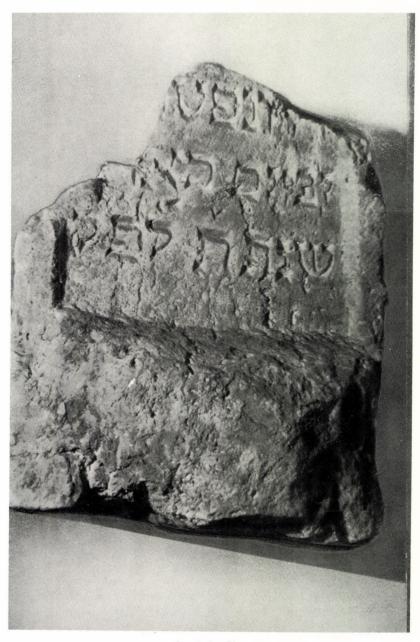
### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *AO*, XII, 1961, 112, No. 5; *BpR*, XX, 1963, 472, No. 5.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 124; BpR, XX, 1963, 472.

### REMARKS:

Lines 2 and 3: בתולת ישראל. On this phrase see Stone No. 66. Line 3: ממה means solace. It is a frequent woman's name. See B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I, Vienna-Leipzig, 1912, 572.



Inscription 71

1635/6

آ<u>ۆ</u>ڭڭ 396 [1635–6]

The stone has a square face in a wide frame, but only one line of script is legible.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53.

Height: 34 cm; width: 36 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.51.

### LITERATURE:

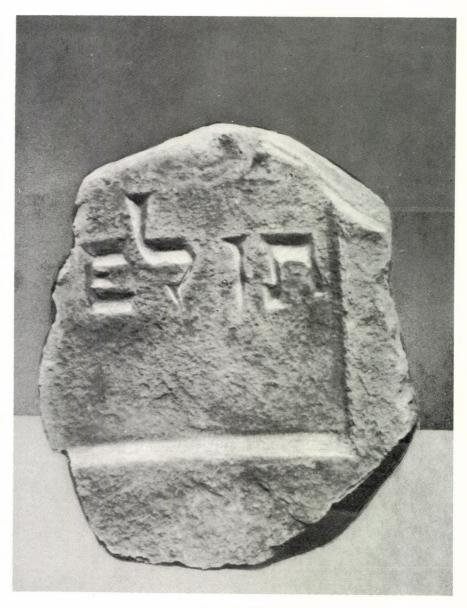
Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 112, No. 6; BpR, XX, 1963, 472, No. 6.

The stone has not been photographed, since the three legible letters are hardly visible on a picture.

71.

# FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1640

[אַל] ונפט[רי] [his/her memory is blessed.] Died .... day of A[dar],
ימים בא[דר] ימים בא[דר]
in the year 400 [1640], according to the minor era.



Inscription 72

Discovered in 1932, in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 46 cm; width: 40 cm; thickness: 29 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 272, No. 6; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958. 504, No. 6.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 504.

### REMARKS:

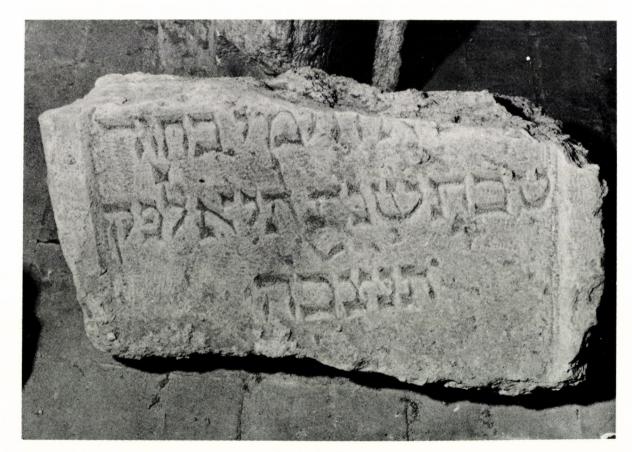
Line 1: [רת] might equally be תפט[רת].

72.

תז לפ[ק] 407 [1646–7], according to the [minor] era.

1646/7

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4–5 Dísz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 39 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 12.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 983.



Inscription 73

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 126, No. 7; HJ, XIV, 1952, 149, No. 7.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 135.

73.

# **JANUARY 1, 1651**

[ביום] א' ח' ימי בחוד	on Sunday, the 8th of the month
טבת שנת תיא לפק	of Tebet, in the year 411 [1651], accord-
	ing to the minor era.
תנצבה	May his/her soul be bound up in the
	bond of life.

Discovered in autumn 1973, in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 26.5 cm; width: 43.5 cm; thickness: 14 cm. Now in the Hilton Hotel on the Várhegy. No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: Hungaro-Turcica. Studies in Honour of Julius Németh, Bp., 1976, 321-4.

Photograph: ibid., 322.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: January 1 did indeed fall on a Sunday in 1651.



Inscription 74

# NOVEMBER, 1652

שר[ה]	Sar[ah]
שנפט[רה]	who die[d]
[כס]ליו תיג	in [Kis]lev, in 413 [1652]
[תֿ] נַצַּבֿה	[May] her soul be bound up in
	the bond of life.

Discovered in 1969 in the building at 11 Szentháromság utca. See Stone 54. This stone forms the 4th step.

Height: 155 cm; width: 43 cm; thickness: 27 cm.

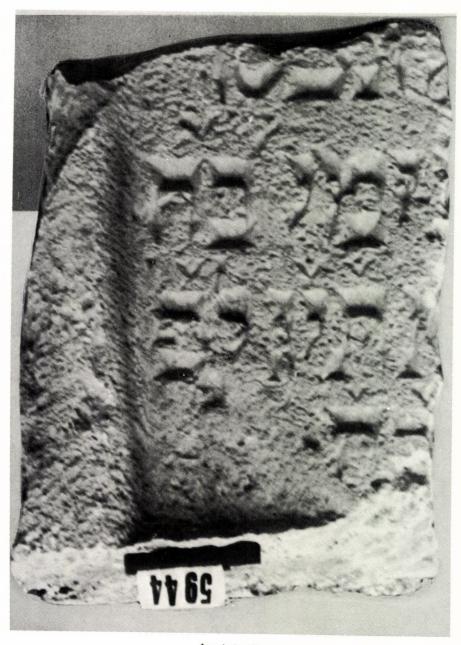
Now in the Fehér Galamb restaurant (11 Szentháromság utca).

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

The text is published here for the first time.

Reference: A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXV, 1970, No. 9.



Inscription 75

# 1652/3

ונפטר מי בח ימי בח	on the day of the month in the [ye]ar 413 [1652–3], according
הַ נַצַּ זְ הַ	to the minor era.  [May his soul be bound up] in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 34 cm; width: 27 cm; thickness: 20 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.44.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 113, No. 7; BpR, XX, 1963, 472, No. 7.

Photographs: AO, XX, 1961, 125; BpR, XX, 1963, 472.



Inscription 76

### **SEPTEMBER 24, 1654**

אפר פה is buried Nathan, is buried Nathan, son of R. Gershon, may his Rock and Redeemer guard him. Died on the 13th of Tishri, in the year 415 [1654], according to the minor era.

Discovered c. 1910 in the building at 4-5 Dísz tér. See Stone 55.

Height: 70 cm; width: 29 cm; thickness: 17 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

Inventory No. 2248.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publication: M. Weisz: MZsSz, XXVIII, 1911, 37 (according to whom the stone was taken to the Capital Museum).

Reference: E. Munkácsi: *Egyenlőség*, LIII, 1933, No. 20 (who wrote that the stone was black granite, although it is in fact limestone).

#### REMARKS:

Line 4: ישמרהו צורו וגואלו, an eulogy usually added to the name of a living person. See L. Zunz: Zur Geschichte und Literatur, 455. M. Weisz erroneously reads זצל

Same line: M. Weisz writes נפטר instead of ונפטר.

Line 5: X: M. Weisz gives the incomprehensible reading 1.



Inscription 77

## **OCTOBER 2, 1655**

בת ר' יהודא daughter of R. Jehuda.

Died in the New Year
of the year 416 [1655], according to the minor era.

May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered c. 1910 in the building at 4–5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 66 cm; width: 27 cm; thickness: 18 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. Inventory No. 2249.

### LITERATURE:

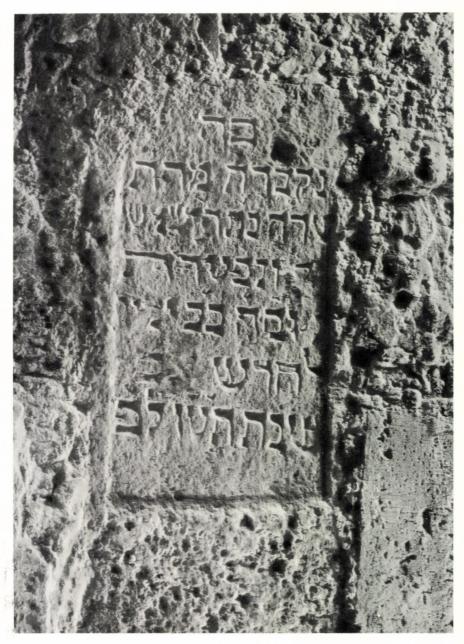
Text publication: M. Weisz: MZsSz, XXVIII, 1911, 37 (according to whom the stone was taken to the Capital Museum).

Reference: E. Munkácsi: *Egyenlőség*, LIII, 1933, No. 20 (who writes that the stone is black granite instead of limestone).

### REMARKS:

Line 1: יהודא: M. Weisz writes יהודא. Line 2: ונפטרת M. Weisz writes נפטרת.

Same line: Instead of ברה M. Weisz erroneously reads הרה, which would mean בראש חודש (new moon), but it does not say in which month.



Inscription 78

### AUGUST 12, 1656

אפר פה is buried the lady
is buried the lady
Sarah, daughter of R. Simson,
his memory is blessed. She died
on Saturday, the 22nd day
of the month of Ab,
in the year 416 [1656], according
to the minor era.

Discovered in 1955 in the ground floor corridor of the eastern wing of the block of buildings at 5, 7 and 9 Színház utca, where it had been immured sideways. See Stone 62.

Height: 128 cm; width: 42 cm; thickness: unmeasurable.

Still in its place of discovery. Although it has not been removed, the text can be read.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 273, No. 7; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 505, No. 7.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 505.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Háromszázéves zsidó sírkő Budán' (A 300-year-old Jewish gravestone in Buda), ÚÉ, XII, 1956, No. 1.

#### REMARKS:

Line 5: השבת on Saturday.

Line 7: אָנְשׁוֹ: Lacking a photograph, the author earlier read this as עוֹלוּה: (JSS, I, 1956, 273, No. 7), but the second time it was published the correct date was given (BpR, XVIII, 1958, 505, No. 7).



Inscription 79

### **FEBRUARY 28, 1657**

פה Here נקברת היקרה is buried the dear מרת רכלי בת lady Rechli, daughter of ר' יהושוע זל ונפ R. Joshuah, his memory is blessed. She טרת טוֹ באד[ר] died on the 15th of Ada[r] שנת תיז לפק in the year 417 [1657], according to the minor era. άἴἔčň May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1959, in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 75 cm; width: 51 cm; thickness: 17 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.7.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 113, No. 8; BpR, XX, 1963, 473, No. 8.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 126; BpR, XX, 1963, 472.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: רכלי: Rechli, Rechlin and Riklin were medieval German variants of the name Rachel. Its forms were also influenced by the names Richilde and Rick (Reich). See L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 50. The form Rechel occurs in Kismarton (Eisenstadt) in 1416 (MZsO, IV, 61, No. 44), and often features on gravestones in Prague. See O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 193–4, No. 40. (ריקל); 390–91, No. 128. (ריקל); 408, No. 138 (in the same form). See also J.F. Gumpertz: Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 343.

Line 6: תֹיֹל might perhaps also be read as הוא from the photograph, but less so from the original stone.



Inscription 80

5

# **FEBRUARY 25, 1660**

פה נטמנת המילד' מרת פסערלי בת ר' יוסף ונפטרת יג ימים אדר שנת תַכֹ ~ לפֿק תַנצבה Here is hidden the midwife Madam Pserli, daughter of R. Joseph. Died on 13th of Adar, in the year 420 [1660], according to the minor era. May her soul be bound up in the bond

of life.

Discovered in July 1970, in the building at 1–2 Szent György tér. See Stone 81. It was discovered by the archaeologist Julia Altmann in a Baroque drain. It is a dolomite stone in an oval frame.

Height: 111 cm; width: 58 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 83.510.1.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: AO, XXV, 1972, 467-8.

Photograph: ÚÉ, XXV, 1970, No. 17.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Zsidó sírkő a Sándor-palotában' (A Jewish

gravestone in the Sándor Palace), ÚÉ, XXV, 1970, No. 17.

### **REMARKS**:

Line 3: מסערלי: Pserli is presumably a popular form of Serlein, which is a derivative of Sarah. In Hungary it is first mentioned in 1390 in a Pozsony document, where the name was borne by the wife of the Pozsony Jew Sadya (MZsO, IV, 22–4, No. 14). Pserli was a midwife and perhaps the daughter of the surgeon Joseph, who was staying in Buda in 1676. Joseph was the son-in-law of the famous Belgrade physician Asher (I. Csillag: MZsO, XIII, 39; L. Glesinger: 'O bolesti Ivaniša Korvina', Liječnički Vjesnik, XCI, 1969, 1109–12). The 1686 siege of Buda also claimed the life of a 87-year-old Jewish midwife (A. Fürst: IMIT Évkönyve, 1936, 179).



Inscription 81

# MAY 9, 1660

Here is buried פה נקבר הנער יצחק the young Isaac. בר שמואל שמש son of R. Samuel, the shamash. ונפטר בקיצור ימי He died in his youth, כֿח לחדש אייר on the 28th of Iyyar, שנת תוד לפק in the year 420 [1660], according to the minor era. [תַנצבה] [May his soul be bound up in the bond of lifel.

Discovered in 1947, in the building at 1–2 Szent György tér, the site of three barracks on medieval foundations in the 18th century. The Jewish gravestone was obviously incorporated during construction work after 1686. In 1803, Count Vince Sándor purchased the buildings and built a palace in their place. In the latter half of the 19th century it was purchased by the state for the Prime Minister's Office. In 1944–45 it suffered severe war damage and most of the upper storey collapsed (M. Horler: *op. cit.*, 426–9). The stone was discovered while the rubble was being cleared.

Height: 48 cm; width: 45 cm; thickness: 16 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 986.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 127, No. 8; HJ, XIV, 1952, 149, No. 8.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 136.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: שמש: On this position cf. S. Krauss: Synagogale Altertümer, Berlin-Vienna, 1922, 141, 181. In medieval Hungary they were called "Meister", and the Latin term was "Judices ordinarii". Even at the end of the 16th century



Inscription 82

they acted in Buda as the official witnesses when documents were drawn up [S. Büchler: *A zsidók története Budapesten* (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 47].

Line 4: ימיו = ימי.

Line 7: The abbreviation marks above the letters can still be discerned.

82.

# SEPTEMBER 3, 1660

פה נקבר כור שלומה בור מרדכי ונפטר כז ימים באלול שנת תכ לפוק תונצבה]

Here is buried R.
Shelomo, son of R. Mordecai.
Died on the 27th day
of Elul, in the year 420 [1660],
according to the minor era. May [his
soul be bound up in the bond of life].

Discovered before 1944 in the house at 13 Szentháromság utca (6 Úri utca). Two medieval dwelling houses stood on the site, part of the southern one stretching over onto the site of the house at 4 Úri utca, not yet standing in the 14th century. The house to the north was built only in the early 15th century. During the siege of 1686 both houses were destroyed, the cellar and walls of the southern house surviving, along with the gateway and an adjacent room in the northern house. At the beginning of the 18th century, the wing looking onto Úri utca was rebuilt, while the wing on the Bástyasétány was only built in the second half of the 18th century, at which time the Jewish gravestone was obviously incorporated. In 1944 the northern room facing Úri utca caved in (M. Horler: op. cit., 528–9).

Height: 47 cm; width: 47.5 cm; thickness: 18 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 127, No. 9; HJ, XIV, 1952, 149-50, No. 9.



Inscription 83

Line 2: שלומה: The plene writing is unusual and points to a lack of skill on the part of the author of the text or the stonemason.

Same line: מרדכי: A biblical name (Esther ii. 5, etc.).

83.

### **OCTOBER 10, 1663**

The place and date of discovery are unknown. Miksa Weisz only informs us: "In the National Museum there is only one stone from this age, the engraving of which bears a striking resemblance to the stones of the Mátyás-templom" (*BpR*, V, 1897, 50).

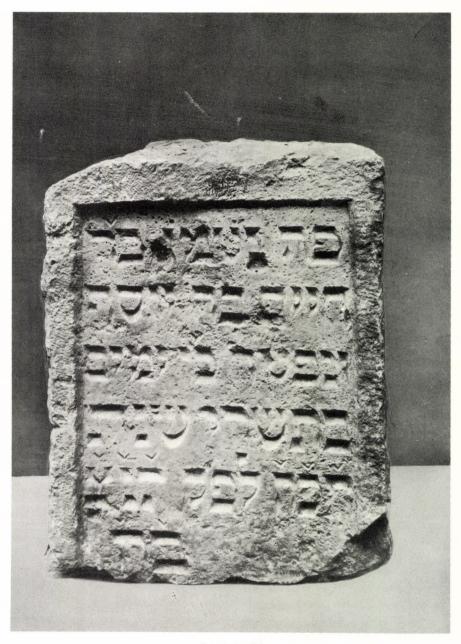
Height: 60 cm; width: 51 cm; thickness: 17 cm.

Now in the ground-floor corridor of the Hungarian National Museum.

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publication: M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 50.



Inscription 84

Line 3: עוור means helper. The name also occurs on graves in Prague. See O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 162-3, No. 25; 263-4, No. 68. The father was killed in 1686, during the recapture of Buda. One of his sons, David, arrived in Jerusalem (N. Katzburg: Mahanayim, XXXVIII, 1959, 79-81; M. Benayahu: Sefunot, III-IV, 1960, 172).

Same line: ונפטר M. Weisz writes ונפטר.

Line 5: M. Weisz writes the date erroneously as 1664. Incidentally, the stonemason divided the date over two lines.

84.

## OCTOBER 15, 1664

בתשרי שנת

שה נטמן כר Here is hidden R. חיים בר יוסף Hayyim, son of R. Joseph. Died on the 26th day of Tishri, in the year לבה לפק תוצב ה למה לפק תוצב ה למה לפק מוצב ה 425 [1664], according to the minor era. May his soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 54 cm; width: 41 cm; thickness: 14 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 976.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 127, No. 10; HJ, XIV, 1952, 150, No. 10.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 137.



Inscription 85

## **FEBRUARY 27, 1668**

אפר פה is hidden the chaste is hidden the chaste Sarah, daughter of Hayyim Kohen.
Died on the second day of Purim, in the year 428 [1668], according to the minor era.

May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1900, during building work on Buda Castle. In a letter of August 30, 1900, quoted above, Marcel Neuschlosz notified Samuel Kohn of the find, and Kohn noted down the texts of the four stones in pencil on the back of the letter. One stone (dating from 1633) has disappeared; this is one of the three survivors, the other two being Nos 86 and 100.

Height: 59 cm; width: 51.5 cm; thickness: 3 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 114.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: JSS, I, 1956, 273, No. 8; BpR, XVIII, 1958, 505, No. 8.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 506.



Inscription 86

Line 2: הצנועה: an attribute of praise for Jewish women (Ben Jehuda, XI, 5544-5).

Line 3: בֿק = כֿץ מרק means true priest, and denotes a member of a Cohenite or priestly family. The name Katz derives from it. See Scheiberné L. Bernáth, A magyarországi zsidóság személy- és családnevei II. József névadó rendeletéig, Bp., 1981, 31. The tombstone of the aged Aaron, Hayyim's son, erected 1755, was still standing at the beginning of this century at Hotzenplotz, bearing the following inscription: אורן ב״ה הישיש ה׳ אהרן ב״ה היים כ״ץ ז״ל מגרושי (A. Marmorstein: Magyar Rabbik (Hungarian Rabbis), III, 1907, 54–5).

86.

# **APRIL 3, 1671**

Here is hidden

לבת חנה בת הנה בת ל the lady Hannah, daughter of R.

Samuel. Died

on the day following

Passover, in the year 431 [1671],

according to the minor era. May her soul be bound up [in the bond of life].

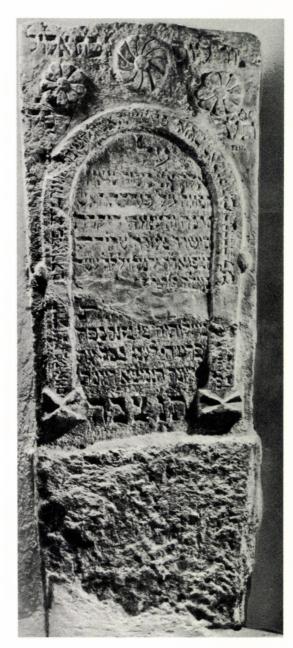
Discovered in 1900, during building work on Buda Castle. See Stone 85. It was first removed to the Víziváros Jewish cemetery, then in 1932 to its present position.

Height: 55 cm; width: 53 cm; thickness: 25 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. Inventory No. 2106.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 273, No. 9; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 507, No. 9.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 507.



Inscription 87

Line 2: חנה: A biblical name (I Samuel i. 2, etc.).

Line 4: גור אסרו. This is the name of the weekday that follows the three pilgrim holidays, and has its source in the Bible (Psalms cxviii. 27): "Bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar". According to the Aggada (Sukka 45b and Rashi ad l.) it refers to the fact that the day after the holiday should also be a merry one with feasting and drinking (M. Zobel: Das Jahr des Juden in Brauch und Liturgie, Berlin, 1936, 129, 184; F. Thieberger: Jüdisches Fest, Jüdischer Brauch, Berlin, 1936, 287; H. Schauss: The Jewish Festivals, Cincinnati, 1938, 278, 313). During the period of the Second Temple, the pilgrims started back from Jerusalem on that day (Cecil Roth: The Standard Jewish Encyclopedia, New York, 1959, 999). Nowadays on that day the penitential Psalm vi usually sung on weekdays is omitted. The day on the gravestone fell on the 23rd of Nisan.

87.

# **SEPTEMBER 20, 1672**

אלול	ג'ו כח	ליום	אור
לפק ב	ה אשה חשובה [ו]הגונה	ដ្ឋ	תלב
פריידל² ב[ת מֹ]הֿ	על אני בוכיה³ מאין על פטירת⁰ האש והענוגה¹¹ היקרה ה מנורה טהורה זרה המהוללה עטר	הפוגה <sup>9</sup> הרכה	
12* דוד זצל מקֿנּ אױסי <sup>4</sup>	יו פיה פתחה [בחכמה] <sup>11</sup> לות⁴י יה מי מנה כפה לעני <sup>12</sup> בכל עת י עונה הנמצא דוגמתה <sup>17</sup> תׄ נׄ צׄ בׄ הׄ	רב מעלות פרשה	259

The text of the two upper lines:

On the eve of Tuesday, on the 28th of Elul, in 432 [1672], according to the minor era.

The text of the frame:

In the centre: Here is hidden the valuable and distinguished woman,

On the left: the lady Freudel, da[ughter] f R. David, the memory of the just is blessed, from Aussee,

On the right: the wife of the illustrious master R. Leb of Lichtenstadt (or Nikolsburg), may his Rock and Redeemer guard him.

Text on the face of the stone:

For these things
I weep without
intermission, because the wife has died,
the tender and delicate, dear
and right, pure lamp,
virtuous and laudable, a crown to
her husband, she opened her mouth [with wisdom].

Who could recount her good qualities? She stretched out her hand to the poor always [and at every] time. Can one find her equal?

May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1887, in two pieces, in the building at 1 Hess András tér, along with some fragments "large and small" (S. Kohn: MZsSz, IV, 1887, 376). Between 1686 and 1702, a Jesuit house was built on the site, into which the Jewish gravestones were incorporated. Between 1867 and 1944 it housed the Ministry of Finance. In 1944–5 the building was entirely consumed by fire (M. Horler: op. cit., 356–8). Miksa Weisz erroneously declares the stone was found in the St. Stephen's chapel in the Mátyás-templom (BpR, V, 1897, 46).

Height: 163 cm; width: 67 cm; thickness: 17.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 120.

### LITERATURE:

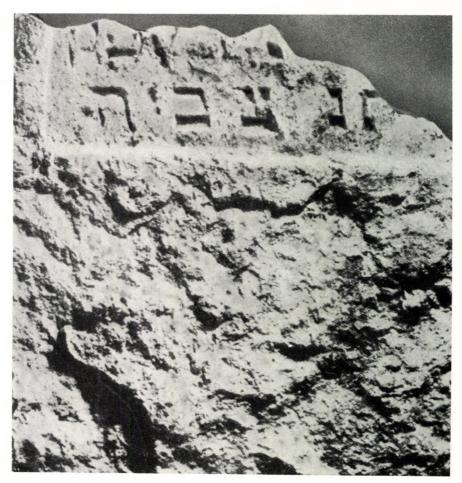
Text publications: S. Kohn: MZsSz, IV, 1887, 376–7 (in collaboration with I. Goldziher); D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 88–9; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 51.

Reference: Egyenlőség, VI, 1887, No. 21.

#### REMARKS:

A single rhyme runs through the text.

- 1. Kaufmann read 1 and corrected it to  $\lambda$ ; Kohn read it as  $\lambda$  (which is what can clearly be seen); but instead of  $\Pi \supset$  he read  $\Pi \supset$ , thus arriving at the 3rd of Elul. The 28th of Elul did indeed fall on a Tuesday in that year.
- 2. פריידל: from the German Freude. See B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 69.
- 3. מקהלת מין: from the community. Kohn inaccurately read it as
  - 4. Aussee in Moravia. Kohn read it wrongly as אויס.
  - 5. ליב: Löw. See B. Klar: op. cit., 69. Kohn inaccurately read it as
- 6. If w were written, then it is Lichtenstadt, if w 1, then it is Nikolsburg. S. Krauss accepts the first and considers the person who erected the gravestone to have been a member of the Lasch family ('Die böhmische Familie Lichtenstadt-Lasch', Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Juden in der Tschechoslowakei, II, 1931-2, 148-9).
  - 7. See Stone 76.
  - 8. Lamentations i. 16.
- 9. Lamentations iii. 49; the biblical text has הפוגות, which is how Kohn read it, but it is contradicted by the rhyme, and the text on the stone can be clearly read in the way given here.
  - 10. According to Kaufmann: פטירה, which is a printer's error.
  - 11. Isaiah xlvii. 1.
  - 12. Proverbs xii. 4.
- 13. Proverbs xxxi. 26. Kohn added the correct complement, but Kaufmann did not follow him.
  - 14. Kohn adds the complement גבו]רות, but the letters לות are clear.
  - 15. Proverbs xxxi. 20.
- 16. The completion does not feature in Kohn, only in Kaufmann. Kohn read it as ועונה.
- 17. On a gravestone from Hamelin: מי ימצא כמוה. See M. Grunwald: Mitteilungen zur Jüdischen Volkskunde, XVIII, 1915, 69, No. 1.



Inscription 88

1674/5

תלה לפק 435 [1674–5], according to the minor era. May his/her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1950, in the building at 32 Úri utca. See Stone 30. Height: 66 cm; width: 64.5 cm; thickness: 9 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 52. 1288.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 274, No. 10; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 507, No. 10.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 507.



Inscription 89

# JUNE 6, 1675

אפרת מרת is buried the lady teah, daughter of R. Joseph, his memory is blessed. Died on the 12th day of Sivan, in the year 435 [1675], according to the minor era.

May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered c. 1887, during the restoration of the St. Stephen's chapel in the Mátyás-templom.

Height: 110 cm; width: 41 cm; thickness: 15.5 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 121.

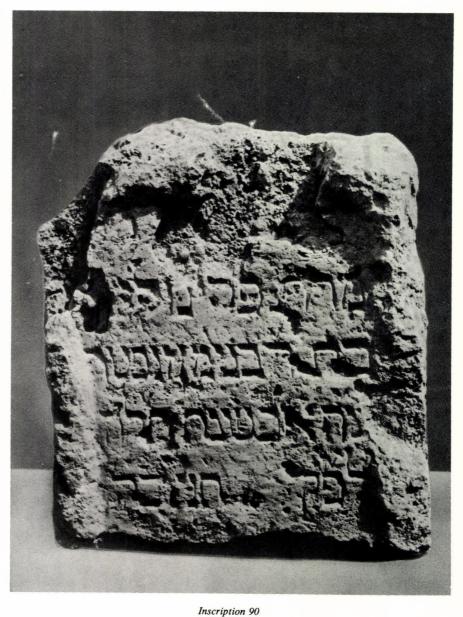
## LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 89, No. 3; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 52.

# REMARKS:

Line 4: נפטרת: M. Weisz inaccurately reads נפטרה.

Line 5: לפק is an abbreviation of לפק.



5

# **AUGUST 17, 1675**

[פה נקברת] מרת פלימלי בת ד בנימן ונפטד כה אב שנת תלה

[Here is buried] the lady Plimli, daughter of R. Benjamin. Died on the 25th of Ab in the year 435 [1675],

לפֿק תֿנֿצֿבֿהֿ

according to the minor era. May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 51 cm; width: 45 cm; thickness: 15.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 978.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 127, No. 11; HJ, XIV, 1952, 150, No. 11.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 138.

#### REMARKS:

Line 2: פלימלי: Blumele. The German translation of חדם. See B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 69; J. Nacht: סמלי אשה, Tel Aviv, 1959, 202. There are several ways of spelling it: L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 47. פלומא; O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 329, No. 96.



Inscription 91

# APRIL 22, 1676

Here is buried
the lady Rebecca,
daughter of R. Jehuda.

Died on the 9th day
of Iyyar, in the year
436 [1676], according to the minor era.
May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered c. 1887, during the restoration of St. Stephen's chapel in the Mátyás-templom.

Height: 118 cm; width: 41 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 117

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 89, No. 2; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 52.

### REMARKS:

Line 4: ונפטרת is read as אנפטרה by Kaufmann, which Weisz follows. Same line: טׁ ימיׁ : Kaufmann and Weisz failed to decipher these words. Line 5: אייר : Kaufmann and Weisz read this as אייר , having failed to discern the date before it.



Inscription 92

1676/7

(לפֿק] (לפֿק] 437 [1676–7], [according to the minor era].
[אוֹנֻבֿבּ[הֿ] May his/her soul be bound up in the bond [of life].

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 26 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 12 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 274, No. 11; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 507, No. 11.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 507.

## REMARKS:

Line 1: Part of the letter > is still discernible.

Line 2: The upper part of the letter 2 can be seen.



Inscription 93

### **FEBRUARY 14, 1678**

פה נקבר איש ירא אלהים כר יהודא בר חיים סוסי ונפטר ב ימים באדר שנת תלח לפק תנצבה

Here
is buried the
God-fearing man R.
Jehuda, son of R. Hayyim
Susi. Died on the 2nd day
of Adar, in the year 438 [1678],
according to the minor era. May his
soul be bound up in the bond of
life.

Discovered c. 1910, in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 120 cm; width: 49 cm; thickness: 21 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. Inventory No. 2247.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: M. Weisz: MZsSz, XXVIII, 1911, 36-7.

Photograph: I. Schulhof: Budai krónika (Buda chronicle), Bp., 1979.

Reference: E. Munkácsi: Egyenlőség, LIII, 1933, No. 20 (who mistakenly

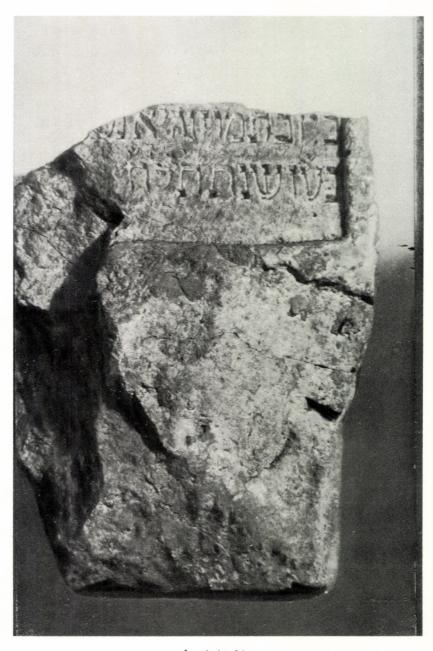
says the stone is black granite instead of limestone).

### REMARKS:

Line 3: A quotation from Job i. 1.

Line 4: יהודה M. Weisz writes יהודא.

Line 5: סוס': A biblical name (Numbers xiii. 11). See I. S. Emmanuel, מצבות שאלוניקי, II, Jerusalem, 1968, 613, No. 1331. The author has seen a note in the Goldziher bequest in which, referring to the work ספר (Alexandria, 1908), it is noted that סוסו is a variant of the name Joseph. It might indicate that the family was of Turkish origin.



Inscription 94

## JULY 6 and 10, 1678

[הוא נפטר				. [he died]
וו והיא נפ[טרת]	ביו כ תמ	on the 2	20th day	of Tammuz.
				She di[ed]
תֿלֿחֿ	בטו שנת	on the	16th, in	the year 438
				[1678].

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 63 cm; width: 53 cm; thickness: 18 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

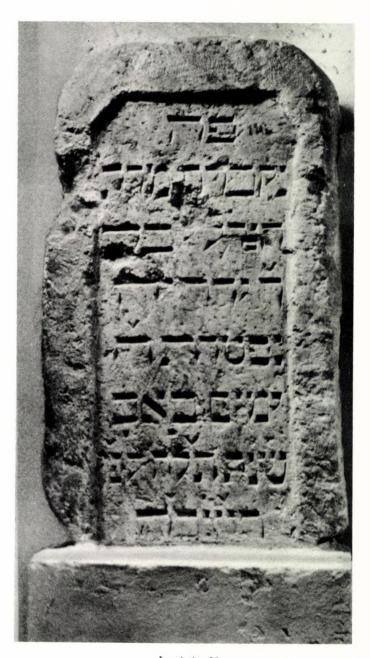
#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 274, No. 12; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 508, No. 12.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 508.

# REMARKS:

Lines 2 and 3: In 1678, the epidemic which raged in Buda claimed several Jewish victims as well. Three dated gravestones have survived from that time. On June 3, Ephraim Kohen, the renowned rabbi of the Buda Jewish community, died, and before him his elder son, Jehizkiyahu. His younger son, Jehuda, wrote in the foreword to his father's work (*Shaar Efrayim*, Sulzbach, 1689): "In 1678 we lived through days fraught with suffering. At that time of pestilence and the wrath of God, several disasters and sufferings befell us in succession" [S. Kohn: *Héber kútforrások és adatok Magyarország történetéhez* (Hebrew sources and data on the nistory of Hungary), Bp., 1881, 137]. The inscription on this gravestone can be interpreted in the light of those events. During the epidemic a male and a female member of the same family, presumably husband and wife, died, and the stone was raised over their double grave.



Inscription 95

# JULY 27, 1678

פה Here נקברת מרת is buried the lady הנדלי בת Hindli, daughter ר ידדיה of R. Yedidyah. נפטרת ח Died on the 8th ימים באב day of Ab שנת תלח לפק in the year 438 [1678], according to the minor era. תוצבה May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered c. 1887, during the restoration of the St. Stephen's chapel in the Mátyás-templom.

Height: 65 cm; width: 35 cm; thickness: 17 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 116.

#### LITERATURE:

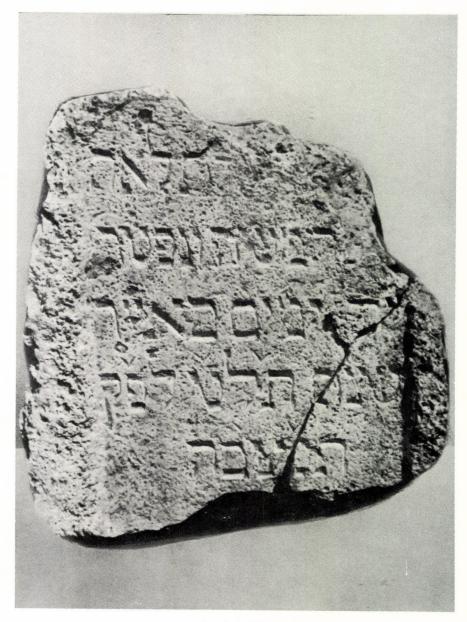
Text publications: D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 90, No. 4; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 52.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: הנדלי: See Stone 59.

Line 4: ידדיה: A biblical name (II Samuel xii. 25), one of Solomon's names. According to Azarja de Rossi it is the Hebrew name of Philon. See also another grave inscription: Z. Avneri: *REJ*, CXXI, 1962, 193, No. 18. See Stone 41.

Line 5: נפטרת: Weisz erroneously writes נפטרת.



Inscription 96

## APRIL 26, 1679

[פה] [נקברת מ]רת לאה [בת] ר' משה ונפטר' יד ימים באייר שנת תולט לפק

[Here]
[was buried] the lady Leah,
[daughter of] R. Moses. Died
on the 14th day of Iyyar,
in the year 439 [1679], according
to the minor era.
May her soul be bound up in
the bond of life.

תנצבה

Discovered in three pieces in 1947 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55.

Height: 65 cm; width: 50 cm; thickness: 12 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 985/2-3.

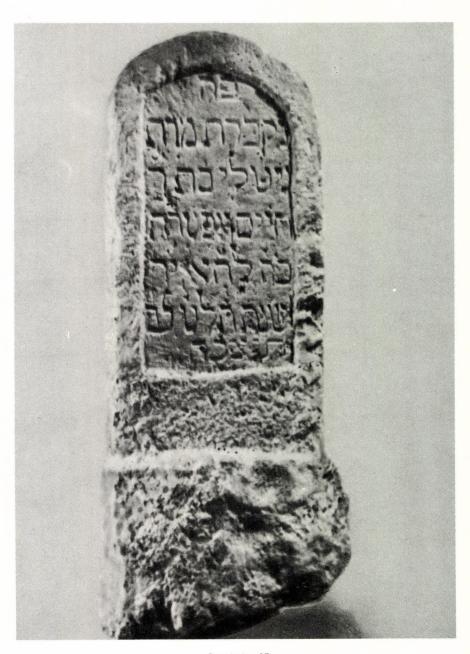
### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 128, No. 12, 130, No. 21; HJ, XIV, 1952, 150, No. 12, 152, No. 21. (The author subsequently realized that the two pieces belong together.)

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 139.

### REMARKS:

Lines 1-3: As the inventory number shows, the parts added in square brackets were also found, but have since been lost.



Inscription 97

# MAY 7, 1679

Here

is buried the lady Gitli, daughter of R.

חיים ונפטרת Hayyim. Died

on the 25th of the month of Iyyar, כה לח אייר on the 25th of the month of Iyyar, in the year 439 [1679], according to

the minor era.

תנצבה May her soul be bound up in the

bond of life.

Discovered in 1956 in the block of houses at 5, 7 and 9 Színház utca. See Stone 62.

Height: 94 cm; width: 36 cm; thickness: 25 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: BpR, XVIII, 1958, No. 13.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 508.

### REMARKS:

Line 3: גיטלי: from the German Gute. See B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 98; P. Mendel: REJ, CX, 1950, 29; B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 69; O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 359–60, No. 112.



Inscription 98

5

# MAY 16, 1679

פה נקבר כר מתתיה בר יצחק כץ ונפטר ה ימים בסיון שנת תלט לפק תנצבה

Here is buried R.

Mattithiah, son of R. Isaac
Kohen. Died on the 5th day
of Sivan, in the year 439 [1679],
according to the minor era. May
his soul be bound up in the bond
of life.

Discovered in the spring of 1966 at 9–11 Szentháromság utca, when the ruined buildings were being rebuilt. At the same time three beautifully carved gravestones serving as cellar steps were found intact in the cellar (cf. Stones 99 and 101). See Stone 54.

Height: 120 cm; width: 56 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: AO, XXV, 1972, 468, No. 2.

Photograph: AO, XXV, 1972, 471.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Újonnan felszínre került zsidó sírkövek a törökkori Budáról' (Newly unearthed Jewish gravestones from the Buda of the Turkish occupation), ÚÉ, XXII, 1967, No. 3.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: מתחיה: A biblical name (Ezra x. 43; Nehemiah viii. 4) perhaps already in the time of Jehoiakim (N. Avigad, *IEJ*, XXX, 1980, 170–3); the name of the father of the Maccabeans, which explains its popularity.

Line 3: אָ"ב: see Stone 85.



Inscription 99

# JUNE 26, 1682

Here is buried the lady Sarah, daughter of R. Saul Joseph, his memory is blessed.

Died on the 20th day of Sivan in the year 442 [1682], according to the minor era.

May her soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Discovered in spring of 1966, in the building at 9-11 Szentháromság utca. See Stone 98.

Height: 127 cm; width: 68 cm; thickness: 13 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: AO, XXV, 1972, 468-9, No. 3.

Photograph: AO, XXV, 1972, 472.

Reference: A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXII, 1967, No. 3.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: שאול A biblical name, of the first king of Israel (I Samuel ix. 2). It also occurred in Buda as the name of the president of the Jewish community (Saul Kiaya), who was rewarded in 1580–81 for his services by being struck off the Turkish poll tax roll of the Buda administrative district (MZsO, XVIII, 29).



Inscription 100

## JUNE 22, 1683

תופטר כוֹח בסיון
Died on the 28th of Sivan
in the year 443 [1683], according to the
minor era.

May his soul be bound up in the
bond of life.

Discovered in 1900, during building work on Buda Castle. See Stone 85. Height: 54 cm; width: 50 cm; thickness: 3 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 113.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 273–4, No. 13; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 509, No. 14.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 509.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: Samuel Kohn only noted down the date, but the stone could be identified from that.



Inscription 101

# NOVEMBER 4, 1683

פה נקבר כר שמואל בן החר יצחק ונפטר טו ימים בחשון שנת תמד לפק תנצבה ז

Here is buried R.
Samuel, son of the learned R.
Isaac. Died on the 15th
day of Heshvan, in the year
444 [1683], according to the minor
era. May his soul be bound up in
the bond of life.

Discovered in the spring of 1966, in the building at 9–11 Szentháromság utca. See Stone 98.

Height: 142 cm; width: 62 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

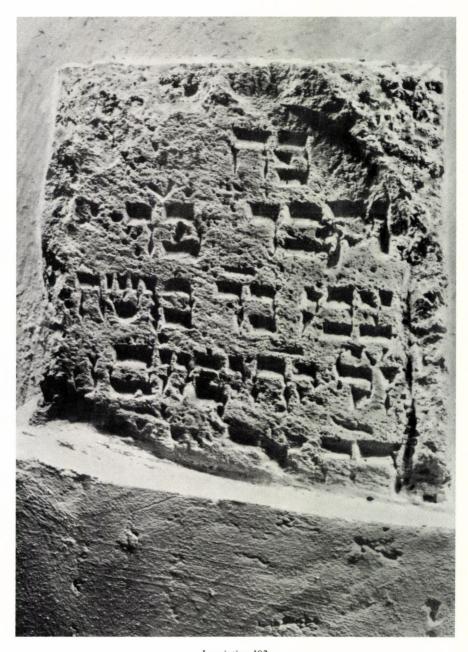
Text publication: A. Scheiber: AO, XXV, 1972, 469, No. 4.

Photograph: AO, XXV, 1972, 473.

Reference: A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXII, 1967, No. 3.

### REMARKS:

Lines 2 and 3: Both Samuel and Isaac are frequent names among the Buda Jews during the time of the Turkish occupation (MZsO, XVIII, 29).



Inscription 102

שנה פה Here
ישמא שמא buried R.
בי בר משה Zevi, son of R. Moses,
his memory is blessed, on the
18th day
of the month of El[ul] . . .

Discovered c. 1887, during the restoration of St. Stephen's chapel in the Mátyás-templom.

Height: 36 cm; width: 34 cm; thickness: 26 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 122.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XL, 1896, 90, No. 5; M. Weisz: BpR, V, 1897, 52.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: כבוד רבנו An abbreviation of כבוד רבנו. The earlier publications erroneously read פֿו, which they wrote out in full as

Line 5:  $\tilde{\Pi} \exists$ : Kaufmann erroneously writes  $\Pi \lnot$ , which has no sense in this case, as the date was given in the previous line. M. Weisz avoids the problem by omitting the two critical letters.

Same line: אל[ול]: This does not feature in the earlier publications.



Inscription 103

			-	1:	)	ž	77	7	ני	בי	is I J	)	h	vi	d	de	er	0	n	1	0			.у	i	S	t	ol	e	SS	se	ed	[]			
•	•	•		•													•	•		•		•			•	•	•				•			•	•	

Discovered c. 1887, during the restoration of St. Stephen's chapel in the Mátyás-templom.

Height: 43 cm; width: 45 cm; thickness: 3 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 115.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: D. Kaufmann: *MGWJ*, XL, 1896, 90, No. 6; M. Weisz: *BpR*, V, 1897, 52.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: בֿן כבוד רבנו An abbreviation of בן כבוד.

Line 4: [1]: This does not feature in the earlier publications.



Inscription 104

Here פה נטמן איש is hidden the faithful נאמן הישיש man, the greybearded ר משה בן R. Moses, son הקדוש ר of the holy R. חיים זל היד Hayyim, his memory is blessed. May God revenge his blood. [ונפטו כא אב [Died] on the 21st of Ab, 

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4–5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 69 cm; width: 48 cm; thickness: 13.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 981.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 128, No. 13; HJ, XIV, 1952, 150–1, No. 13.

### REMARKS:

Line 4: משה features in the text erroneously with the letter ח.

Line 5: הקדוש: The attribute "holy" is always applied to martyrs. See L. Zunz: Zur Geschichte und Literatur, 325–8.

Line 6: הֹצֹדׁ: This abbreviation also occurs beside the name of martyrs. See Stone No. 32.



Inscription 105

פה נקברת אשת חיל מרת יטלי בת ר' יוסף זל	Here is buried the virtuous woman, the lady Jitli, daughter of R. Joseph, his memory is blessed.
ונפטרת ביום ד'	Died on Wednesday,
	of the month according to the [minor] era.

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 49 cm; width: 46 cm; thickness: 16 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 982.

# LITERATURE:

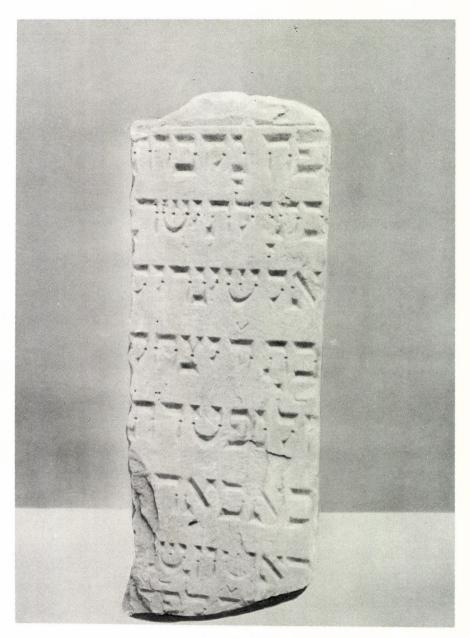
Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 128, No. 14; HJ, XIV, 1952, 151, No. 14.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 140.

### REMARKS:

Lines 2 and 3: אשת חיל: On this attribute, see Stone 35.

Line 3: יטלי is a variant of גיטלי. See Stone 97. This is a frequent way of spelling it. Cf. L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 49; B. Wachstein: Die Grabschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Eisenstadt, Vienna, 1922, 379; B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 98; P. Mendel: REJ, CX, 1950, 29.



Inscription 106

שה נקברת בחולת ישר the virgin of Israthe virgin of Israthel, Shindil, el, Shindil, daughter of R. Isaac, his memory is blessed. Died on the 21st in the first Ada[r], in the yea[r] ..... אור אשון שנ[ת] האשון שנ[ת] .... ה לפֿקֹ

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 65 cm; width: 24 cm; thickness: 11.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 980.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 128–9, No. 15; HJ, XIV, 1952, 151. No. 15.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 141.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: On this phrase see Stone 66.

Line 3: שנדיל: the German Schöne, Schöndl. See L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 50 (Shönel, Schönlin); B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 99; S. Krauss: Festschrift Armand Kaminka, Vienna, 1937, 143; B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 69; O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 233–4, No. 56. (שוינדל); S. Eidelberg: op. cit., 40 (Scheindlein).



Inscription 107

Here שמs buried the lady was buried the lady Hadas, daughter of R. David, [his memory] is blessed, on the 20th day of the month

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4-5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 37 cm; width: 45 cm; thickness: 12 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 979.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 129, No. 18; HJ, XIV, 1952, 152, No. 18.

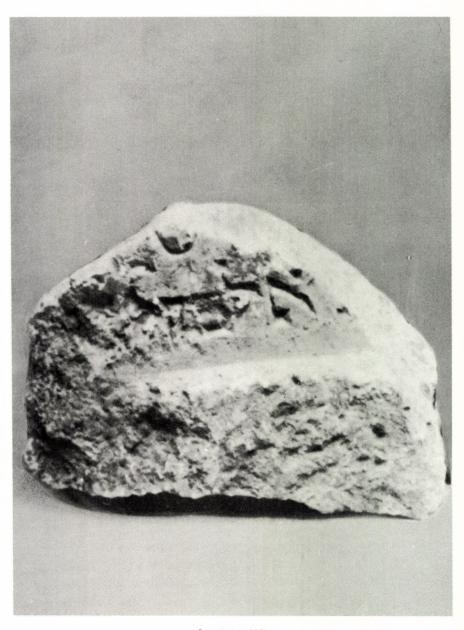
Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 142.

### REMARKS:

Line 3: מדסה myrtle. See Isaiah xli. 19; lv. 13. In the form הדסה it occurs in the Bible as a personal name (Esther ii. 7). See B. D. Weinryb, 'Texts and Studies in the Communal History of Polish Jewry', *PAAJR*, XIX, 1950, Hebrew Part: 123.

Line 4: 5 can also be read as 5.

This stone was carved by the same mason as carved Stone 106.



Inscription 108

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 	 																	 						•															
	 	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	 	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

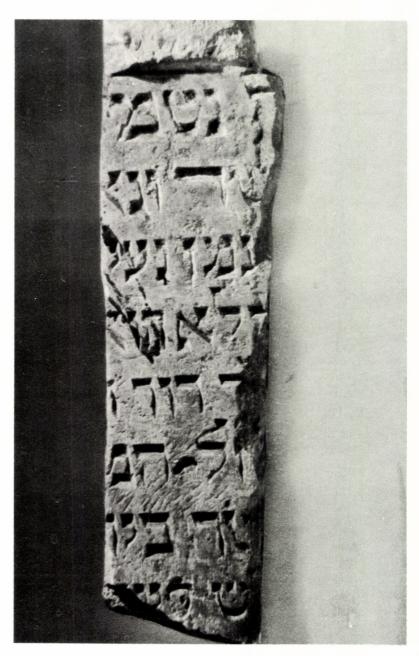
Discovered in 1947 in the building at 4–5 Disz tér. See Stone 55. Height: 23 cm; width: 36 cm; thickness: 18 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 984.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 130, No. 20; HJ, XIV, 1952, 152, No. 20.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: **X3**: In the author's earlier publications, he had been unable to decipher the letter 3.



Inscription 109

He]re is hidd[en] he [up]right and faith[ful man], he pleasant[ly ring]ing one, who is, [son of]  R. David, the can[tor], is memory is blessed, whom they
all[ed] day  f the [mon]th of Siva[n]

Discovered c. 1920 in the building at 1 Táncsics utca. "The present-day property encompasses the ruins of two medieval dwelling houses destroyed in 1686 and incorporated at the beginning of the 18th century." The gravestone may have been built in at that time. In 1920, the house became the property of the Baron Hatvany family, who made some major interior and exterior alterations [M. Horler: op. cit., 487–9], at which time the immured gravestone was removed.

Height: 64 cm; width: 19 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 275, No. 14; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 510, No. 15.

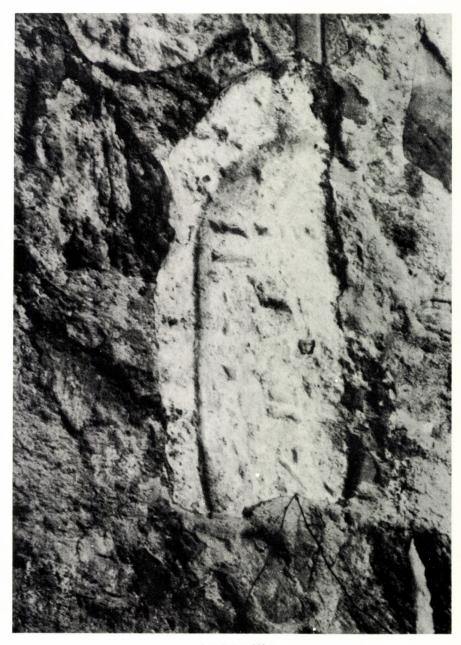
Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 510.

### REMARKS:

Line 5: 777 = cantor. On the subject of that position, see S. Krauss: Synagogale Altertümer, Berlin-Vienna, 1922, 121 ff. It is likely that both father and son were cantors.

Line 6: המכנוה An abbreviation of המכונה. The abbreviation mark can still be discerned.

305



Inscription 110

	[פה] [נקבר כר מ]שלם [בר] זל	[Here] [is buried R. Me]shullam, [son of R.], his memory is
5		blessed. [Died] on Saturday, [on the day of the mo]nth of Elul,

Discovered in 1955 in the second-floor outside wall facing the courtyard in the east wing of 5, 7 and 9 Színház utca, where it had been inserted turned on its side. See Stone 62.

Height: 46 cm; width: 21 cm; thickness: unascertainable.

Still in its original place, since it has not been removed; the text can nonetheless be read.

No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 516, No. 27.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 516.

### REMARKS:

Line 2: משלם: A biblical name (II Kings xxii. 3, etc.). See O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: *op. cit.*, 149–50, No. 20. The word ("payed for") may refer to the redemption of the child in illness (J.F. Gumpertz: *Tarbiz*, XXV, 1955–6, 352). See A. Scheiber: *MIOK Évkönyve*, 1979/80, 317–8.



Inscription 111

	פה	Here
	נקבר איש נאמן	was buried the faithful man,
	היקר כור שלום	the beloved R. Shalom,
	בר יונה זל היום	son of R. Jonah, his memory is
		blessed, today,
5	[י]ום א' אחרון [של פסח] שנת	on Sunday, the last day of [Pesah], in year

Discovered in 1925 in the building at 2 Hess András tér, under the stone floor of the janitor's flat in the Szilágyi Erzsébet Girls' Grammar School. See Stone 53.

Height: 49 cm; width: 47 cm; thickness: 16 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: M. Weisz: 'Új sírkőleletek Budavárában' (New gravestone finds in Buda Castle), *Egyenlőség*, XLIV, 1925, No. 37; re-published: *Egyenlőség*, LII, 1931, No. 1.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: שלום = peace. A name that may yet prove to be of biblical origin (Isaiah ix. 5). Later it was very frequently used. See O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 206, No. 45; 254, No. 63; 353–4, No. 109.

Line 4: יונה: A name of biblical origin; one of the minor prophets.

Line 5: רֹוֹם א אחרון: M. Weisz takes this in one and translates it as "the day after Sunday", which this author considers has no sense whatever, although Weisz was on the right track when he wrote: "It is possible that the feast of Pesah should be added."



Inscription 112

איש נאמן
ווא Here
ווא באמן איש נאמן is hidden the faithful
God-fearing man, the learned
ווא באלהים החבר
ווא אלהים החבר

Discovered, like Stone 111, in 1925 in the building at 2 Hess András tér, under the stone floor of the janitor's flat in the Szilágyi Erzsébet Girls' Grammar School. See Stone 53.

Height: 30 cm; width: 43 cm; thickness: 22 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: M. Weisz: *Egyenlőség*, XLIV, 1925, No. 37; re-published: *Egyenlőség*, LII, 1931, No. 1.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: ירא אלהים: On this biblical phrase see Stone 93. Same line: החבר: M. Weisz copied it down as החבר.

Line 4: מה"ר M. Weisz inaccurately writes מה"ר.



Inscription 113

- '	[Here is bu]ried R.
אברה ברר שמשון ברר שמשון	Abraham, [son of R.] Simson,

Discovered in 1947 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 31 cm; width: 20 cm; thickness: 11 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 990.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 129, No. 17; HJ, XIV, 1952, 152, No. 17.

Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 135.

## REMARKS:

Line 1: A different solution or completion from previous publications has been used in two places.

Line 3: שמשון: Simson was a common name among the Buda Jews during the Turkish occupation (MZsO, XVIII, 29).



Inscription 114

ה]כנסות כלה Friday evening, on the day of the New Moon of Heshva[n]

Discovered in 1948 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 22 cm; width: 32 cm; thickness: 26 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 988.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 129, No. 19; HJ, XIV, 1952, 152, No. 19.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: הכנסת כלה. Word for word it means "the reception/endowment of the bride", and denotes Friday or Friday evening. See L. Lewysohn: נפשות צדיקים, Frankfurt a/M, 1855, 32, No. 20. Earlier the author had surmised that the person who featured on the gravestone might have been engaged in providing orphaned brides with dowries, which was considered a very worthy deed (Meg. 3b; E. E. Urbach: *The Sages*, Jerusalem, 1978, 545). This is how it has to be supplemented on a grave inscription (Z. Avneri: *REJ*, CXXI, 1962, 193, No. 18): [בהכנסת [כלה].

Line 2: ביוֹם An abbreviation of ביוֹם.

Same line: [קשר[ר] We earlier read it as תשר[ר].



Inscription 115

אפה Here

נקבר הב is buried the youthful Israel,
his memory is blessed,
son of R. Perez,

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 34 cm; width: 34 cm; thickness: 22 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.8.

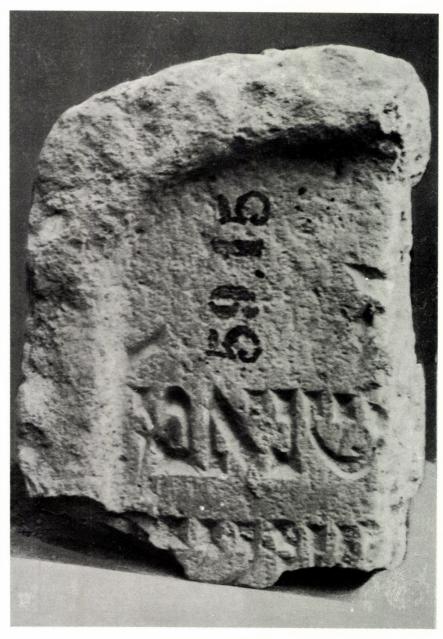
### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 114, No. 9; BpR, XX, 1963, 473, No. 9.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 127; BpR, XX, 1963, 473.

## REMARKS:

Line 4: פרץ : The name of several biblical characters. See, for instance, Genesis xxxviii. 29.



Inscription 116

	[פ]ה	[He]re
	[נקבר אי]ש	
שש[ת]	[בֿר]	[son of R.] Sheshe[t],

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 33 cm; width: 25 cm; thickness: 24 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.15.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 114, No. 10; BpR, XX, 1963, 473, No. 10.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 128; BpR, XX, 1963, 473.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: ששת: A man's name from the period of the Talmud. See J. Levy: Neuhebräisches und Chaldäisches Wörterbuch, IV, 616. It was in frequent use among oriental Jews. See I. Epstein: The Responsa of Rabbi Simon b. Zemah Duran, Oxford-London, 1930, 5; A. Hershman: רבי יצחק בר ששת, Jerusalem, 1956, 11.



Inscription 117

פה Here
זקבל is buried
אר Sor[l],
מאר daughter of R.
וצחק Isaac,

The stone has been carved from a Gothic gateway. On the reverse two Gothic blind traceries can be seen.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53.

Height: 50 cm; width: 32 cm; thickness: 32 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.18.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 114-5, No. 11; BpR, XX, 1963, 474, No. 11.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 129; BpR, XX, 1963, 473.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: [לאר[ל]] A diminutive of Sarah, also occurring in the form סעריל. See B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 98. In Prague the form שאריל can be encountered (O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 375–6, No. 120); D. Kaufmann: Die Memoiren der Glückel von Hameln, Frankfurt a/M., 1896, LVIII.

21 Scheiber 321



Inscription 118

וֹל בן כ[ר] his memory is blessed, son of [R.]
[אור מנחם ז'ל בן כ[ר]
Menahem, his memory [is blessed].
Died
[שנטר ד' א ל הודש]
the 8th day of the [month]

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 32 cm; width: 23 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.21.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 115, No. 12; BpR, XX, 1963, 474, No. 12.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 130; BpR, XX, 1963, 474.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: מנחם means "consoling". A biblical name, it was borne by one of the kings of Israel. See II Kings xv. 14 ff. From the Turkish period: A. Scheiber: *REJ* CXXIII, 1964, 235.

The stone is the work of the same mason as Nos. 106 and 107.



Inscription 119

		7	ב	7	יוֹ יוֹ		10	V	1	7	,	,	Ť	2		]	R	J	J	05	sł	n	18	a,	S	01	n	(	n	ne						is d
															inn																					
•	•		•	•		•	•	•		•		•	•							•		•										•	•	•	•	

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 32 cm; width: 50 cm; thickness: 14 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.24.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 115, No. 13; BpR, XX, 1963, 474, No. 13.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 131; BpR, XX, 1963, 474.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: יהושוע: On the stone there is יהושיע, like on Stone 79. The name was also common among Jews who visited Buda (MZsO, XVIII, 27).



Inscription 120

						7	•	٦	1:	בו	1	בה	1	tł	16	b	u	e	ie	rı	1	ec	1						

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 42 cm; width: 27 cm; thickness: 24 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.35.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 115-6, No. 14; BpR, XX, 1963, 475, No. 14.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 14; BpR, XX, 1963, 474.

## REMARKS:

Line 4: א: The upper stroke of the following letter is also discernible, which would point to ב, i.e. the word was אברהם.



Inscription 121

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 39 cm; width: 27 cm; thickness: 25 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.36.

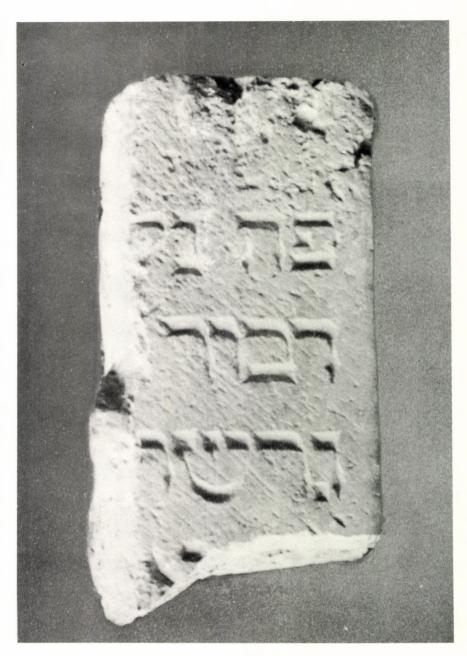
#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 116, No. 15; BpR, XX, 1963, 475, No. 15.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 133; BpR, XX, 1963, 475.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: ב: This is the last letter of the father's name, which would point to אברהם, מנחם, סייאברהם, מנחם



Inscription 122

	[	]	1	1	וו		]	1	-	7	-	1	0	H											it	e	r	C	of	. ]	R	]	1	
										7	מ	-	دا	G	re	r	S	h	0	[1	n	],												
					*	7																												
														٠.																				

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 39 cm; width: 18 cm: thickness: 23 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.37.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 116, No. 16; BpR, XX, 1963, 475, No. 16.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 134; BpR, XX, 1963, 475.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: **דבורה:** means "bee". The name was borne by two female characters in the Bible: Rebecca's nurse (Genesis xxxv. 8) and a prophetess (Judges iv. 4).

Line 3: [בוֹשׁרוֹב: A biblical name, for instance of one of Moses' sons (Exodus ii. 22). It also occurs in the form גרשון, as can be seen on Stone 76, which in the Bible was the name of one of Levi's sons (Genesis xlvi. 11).



Inscription 123

[Here is buri]ed the virtuous woman, the beloved lady Rebecca, daughter of the erudite R. Jehuda, his memory is blessed.

[Die]d on the 3rd day of the [month] ...in the yea[r].... [according to the minor era].

[May her soul be] bound up [in the bond of lifel.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. That the two pieces of this broken stone belong together can be established both from the text and from the line of fracture. See Stone 53.

Height: 73 cm; width: 58 cm; thickness: 18 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.23; 59.43.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 117, No. 17; BpR, XX, 1963, 476, No. 17.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 135; BpR, XX, 1963, 475.

#### REMARKS:

Lines 1 and 2: אשת חיל: Concerning this attribute, see Stone 35.

Line 3: החכם רבי An abbreviation of החכם.

Same line: \*: This final letter is a line-filler. The practice was to use the opening letter of the first word of the following line for the purpose.



Inscription 124

פרומי Frumi, מרומי daughter of R.

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 2 Hess András tér. See Stone 53. Height: 29 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 17 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 59.45.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 117, No. 18; BpR, XX, 1963, 476, No. 18.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 136; BpR, XX, 1963, 476.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: פרומי Fromme, meaning "devout"; better known in the form פרומט. See B. Wachstein: Die Grabschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Eisenstadt, Vienna, 1922, 100, No. 191; B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XL, 1923, 98. According to J.F. Gumpertz (Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 343–4) it derives from the word Frohmut (joy).



Inscription 125

[Shal]om, his memory is blessed, [of Tebe]t in the year [caccording to] the minor era.

[May his soul be bound up] in the bond of life.

Discovered 1951–3, in the building at 4 Hess András tér. See Stone 63. Height: 39 cm; width: 19 cm; thickness: 16 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 49.796.

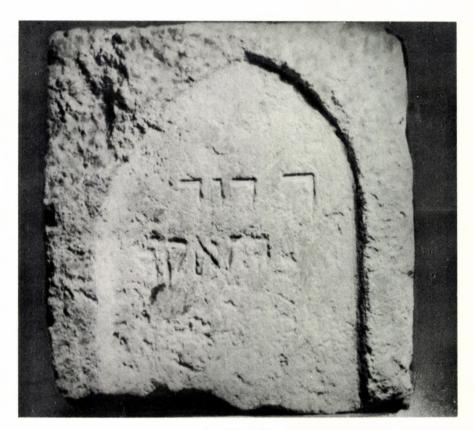
# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 277, No. 21; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 513, No. 22.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 513.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: Before ב the letter ו is discernible, which would give the name



Inscription 126

# ר' דוד R. David, the humble.

The face of the gravestone forms a Gothic arch.

Discovered 1951–3, in the building at 4 Hess András tér. See Stone 63.

Height: 35 cm; width: 34 cm; thickness: 18 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 49.797.

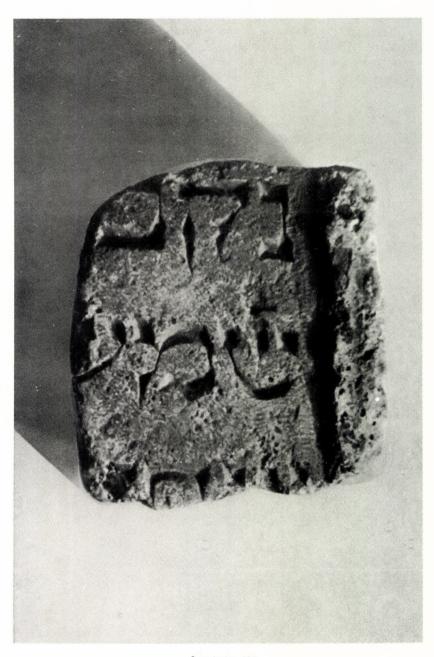
#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 278, No. 24; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 515, No. 25.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 514.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: حقير (haqîr) is the Turkish and Arabic for humble or modest. Turkish authors often applied this attribute to themselves. (Information kindly supplied by Professor Dr. László Rásonyi.) Its Hebrew equivalent is بركان which appears on Stone 131. In the author's earlier publications no reading for this word could be given. In the Bible it is the attribute of David: "the youngest" (I Samuel xvii. 14). That may be why the Turkish word was used next to the name David (M. Richtmann: AT, IX, 1962, 137).



Inscription 127

		[•	[•]	) ·	5	)	•	7 [] 7	]:	ם	1	מי		Sin	b	u [	o	n	e ,	d	0	n	1	0		_	

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 23 cm; width: 20 cm; thickness: 9 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 275, No. 15; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 510, No. 16.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 510.

# REMARKS:

Line 4: The upper part of the letter  $\nearrow$  is still discernible.



Inscription 128

		?	7	3	7]	7	ì	27	•	ĭ		R	١.	-	Si	n	n	[(	or	'n	?]	,			n	n]	],		
																								•					
																												•	

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 23 cm; width: 20 cm; thickness: 10 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 275, No. 16; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 511, No. 17.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 511.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: שמואל ושמועון: However this might also be שמואל or שמואל.

Line 3: [במ[רם]: A biblical name, the father of Moses (Exodus vi. 18, etc.).



Inscription 129

	[	_	ř	7	1	2	0	,	7	7			-	17	כ	]		[] [t [c	h	le	•	1	a	d	y	]	1	V	[i	r	ia	ır		1,	ŀ	ni	S	ľ	n	e	n	n	0	r	y	i	S
																																								b	1	es	SS	36	20	1]	
															•				,																												
															•																																
																			,																												

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 29 cm; width: 26 cm; thickness: 11 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: JSS, I, 1956, 276, No. 17; BpR, XVIII, 1958, 511, No. 18.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 511.

# REMARKS:

Line 2: מרים: A biblical name, Moses's sister (Exodus xv. 20, etc.).

Line 3: לא has been added to the author's earlier text publications, since the stem of the letter לא, or the abbreviation mark, is clearly discernible.



Inscription 130

פה נקבר' מרת נחמה בת ר	Here is buried the lady Nehama, daughter of R.
שועל	Shual,
	,

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 41.5 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 31 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 276, No. 18; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 512, No. 19.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 512.

# REMARKS:

Line 4: שועל means "fox". A biblical name (I Chronicles vii. 36), it occurs in later periods too, but only rarely. See J.F. Gumpertz: *Tarbiz*, XXV, 1955–6, 458.



Inscription 131

[Here was buried]

(האיש] הענו הר'

the meek [man], R.

[Mos]es (?), son of R. Hayyim,

[סח] Sunday, the 17th of Te[bet].

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 31 cm; width: 38 cm; thickness: 15 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 276, No. 19; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 512, No. 20.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 512.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: הענו: the attribute "meek" may also refer to the name of Moses. Cf. Numbers xii. 3.

Line 4: דֹי: This was earlier read as ז and taken for an abbreviation of אין, but the letter following b is discernible, if with difficulty, and is the first letter of DD. Thus the two letters before it obviously denote a number.



Inscription 132

		-	ń.	]	,	_	17	מ	-	1:	בי	7	ני	is	3	b	u	r	ie	c	l	R	c.	1	0	f	F	2	.,	[	0	u	ır	N	1:	as	st	te	r	]
٠.														٠																										

Discovered in 1932 in the Víziváros Jewish cemetery. Height: 33 cm; width: 34 cm; thickness: 32.5 cm. Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. No inventory number.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 277, No. 22; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 515, No. 23.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 514.

## REMARKS:

Line 3: חביב means "amiable", and also occurs as a family name. See Enc. Jud., V, 130. Cf. I. S. Emmanuel, מצבות שאלוניקי II, Jerusalem, 1968, 932. The author earlier deciphered it as ברוך, but traces of certain letters point to the reading given here.

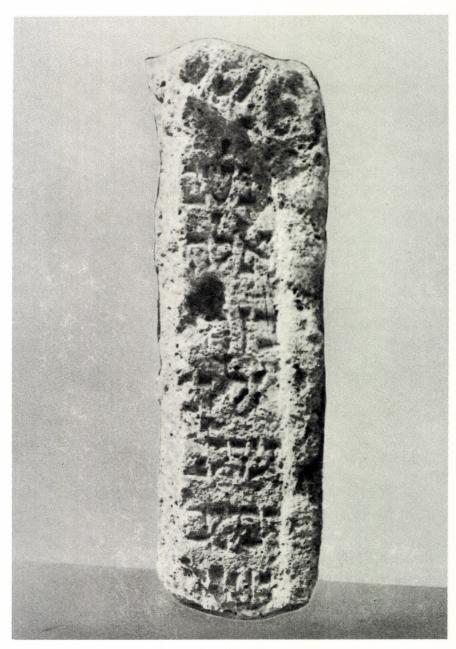


Inscription 133

133.

5	פה Here [is bu]ried Miriam, [daughter of] Halevi. [Die]d on the 12th [day of the month A]b,
	Discovered in 1947 in the building at 32 Úri utca. See Stone 30. Height: 46 cm; width: 33 cm; thickness: 11 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory No. 775.
	LITERATURE:
	Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 129, No. 16; HJ, XIV, 1952, 151-2, No. 16.
	Photograph: AO, II, 1952, 135.
RE	MARKS:
	Line 5: The earlier text publications have been supplemented.
	134.

[according to the] minor [era].



Inscription 135

Discovered in 1950 in the building at 32 Úri utca. See Stone 30.

Height: 64 cm; width: 27 cm; thickness: 12 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 53.2382.

## LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: JSS, I, 1956, 278, No. 25; BpR, XVIII, 1958, 515, No. 26.

No photograph in existence.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: Despite all efforts, nothing more could be deciphered on the surface of this large stone.

135.

[פה] [Here] נטמ[ן כור] is hidd[en R.] אלח[נן] Elha[nan], בן ח[יים] son of Ha[yyim], וג[פטר לחיי] his memory is blessed. [He departed] עולם [ביום] into everlasting [life] י בטב[ת] on the 10th [day] of Tebe[t], שנ[ת]...[לפדק] in the yea[r] ... [according to the minor era]. [תַנצבה] [May his soul be bound up in the bond of life].



Inscription 136

Discovered in 1957 in the building at 32 Úri utca. See Stone 30.

Height: 63 cm; width: 18 cm; thickness: 20 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 57.132.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 117-8, No. 19; BpR, XX, 1963, 477, No. 19.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 137; BpR, XX, 1963, 476.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: אלח[נק]: A biblical name (II Samuel xxi. 19, etc.). Lines 5–6: לחיי]: A biblical expression. See Daniel xii. 2. In its original context it also refers to resurrection.

136.

5

פה	Here
[נ]טמן הח[כם]	is [hid]den the eru[dite],
[הא]לוף הח ר	[the chi]ef, the learned Ra-
[פ]אל ב[נ]דק[ט בן]	[pha]el Be[ne]dic[t, son of]
[פ]אל ב[נ]דק[ט בן] [ראו]בן זל ונפ[טר]	[Reu]ben, his memory is blessed.
	Di[ed]
[בשם] טוב ב[יום]	of good [name], on [day],
[כ]ב לחו[דש]	the [2]2nd of the [mo]nth
	·

Discovered in 1959 in the building at 32 Úri utca, in two pieces. The fracture and the text show the two pieces belong together. See Stone 30.

Height: 70 cm; width: 24 cm; thickness: 12 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

Inventory No. 59.84—85.



Inscription 137

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: AO, XII, 1961, 118, No. 20; BpR, XX, 1963, 478. No. 20.

Photographs: AO, XII, 1961, 138; BpR, XX, 1963, 477.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: הא] means "chief" or "notability". See Stones 87 and 138. The word comes from the Bible (Genesis xxxvi. 15, etc.). Concerning this title see A. Orenstein: אנציקלופדיה לתארי־כבוד בישראל. Tel Aviv, 1958, 307–10; V. Hamáčková—J. Šedinová: Judaica Bohemiae, XVIII, 1982, 48.

Line 4: ר[פ]אל]: A biblical name (I Chronicles xxvi. 7). Later this angel's name was given to safeguard a child or cure him of an illness. See J.F. Gumpertz: Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 454–5.

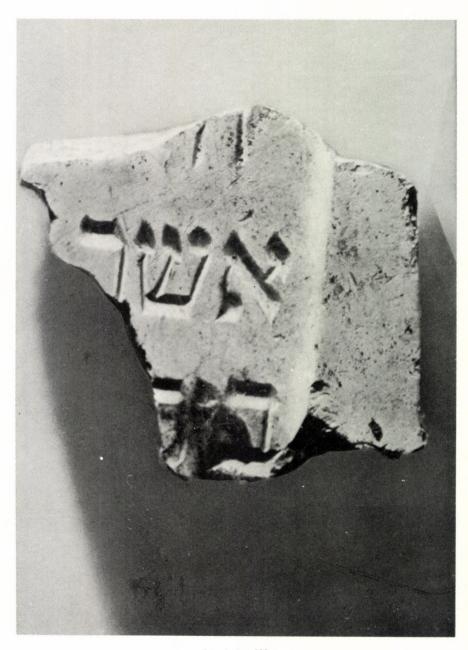
Line 4: [1] The name Benedict occurs as early as 1670 in Vienna. See I. Schwarz: Das Wiener Ghetto, Vienna-Leipzig, 1909, 250, Nos 77-8; B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I, Vienna-Leipzig, 1912, 274-5, No. 364; A.F. Pribram: Urkunden und Akten zur Geschichte der Juden in Wien, I, Vienna-Leipzig, 1918, 252, Nos 75, 77 and 78.

Line 6: DIE [DIE]: A biblical expression. Cf. Ecclesiastes vii. 1; E. L. Rapp and O. Böcher: Die ältesten hebräischen Inschriften Mitteleuropas in Mainz, Worms und Speyer, Mainz, 1959, 18, No. 14.

The stone is the work of the same mason as No. 106.

137.

	פה	Here
	נקברת	is buried
		Nehama, daught[er of]
	הלוי זל ו[נפטרת]	the Levite, his memory is blessed.
		[Died]
5	ע יכי	at Erev Yom Kippur



Inscription 138

Discovered in 1892 during extension of the Buda royal palace.

Height: 39 cm; width: 25 cm; thickness: 11 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text first published faultily in *Egyenlőség*, XI, 1892, No. 53, in the news section; then: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 276–7, No. 20; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 513, No. 21.

Photograph: BpR, XVIII, 1958, 513.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: נחמה means "consolation" and was another name chosen to safeguard a child. See J.F. Gumpertz: *Tarbiz*, XXV, 1955–6, 456. See Stone 69.

138.

הא[לוף כוֹר]	the chi[ef R.]
אשר	Asherin the mo[nth]

Discovered in 1952 around the Mátyás-templom. Height: 13 cm; width: 13 cm; thickness: 6.5 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.



Inscription 139

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: A. Scheiber: *JSS*, I, 1956, 277, No. 23; *BpR*, XVIII, 1958, 515, No. 24.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: [לוף]: The second letter א was not deciphered earlier by the author. It now provides the present reading of the word. Concerning this attribute, see Stones 87 and 136.

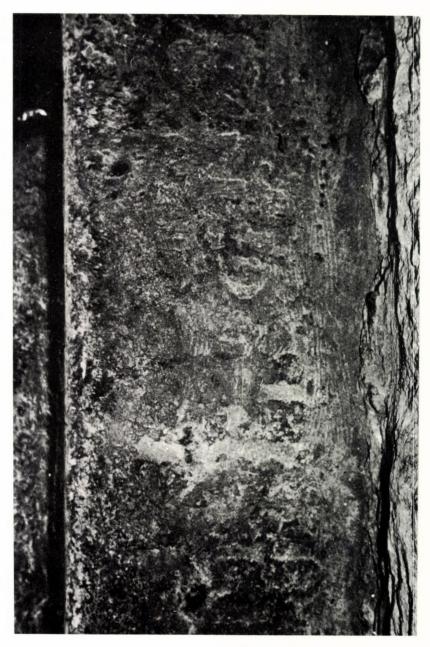
Line 2: השש: The biblical name of one of Jacob's sons (Genesis xxx. 13, etc.). It occurs among the Buda Jews during the period of the Turkish occupation (MZsO, XVIII, 29).

139.

אשת היל is buried
the virtuous woman,
the lady Rebecca,
daughter of R. Israel
Kohen, his memory is blessed.
At the new moon

Discovered in December, 1970, in the building at 4–5 Disz tér, during reconstruction work carried out prior to occupation by the National Board for Monument Preservation. In the gateway, beautiful 13th century sedilia came to light, the earliest to be found so far in a secular building. One could see how elements of ecclesiastical art passed over into secular architecture. From the side wall of one of the halls this Jewish gravestone was removed.

Only the lower part, with the date, is missing from this hard limestone gravestone. A stone of this size was required for the building and the rest just broken off. The text is carved in an oval frame. See Stone 55.



Inscription 140

# 21. take

Height: 62 cm; width: 39 cm; thickness: 18 cm.

Now in the Budapest Historical Museum.

No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publication: A. Scheiber: AO, XXV, 1972, 469-70, No. 5.

Photographs: ÚÉ, XXVI, 1971, No. 3; AO, XXV, 1972, 474.

Reference: A. Scheiber: 'Zsidó sírkő a török hódoltság korából a Dísz-téren' (Jewish gravestone in Dísz tér from the period of Turkish occupation),  $\acute{U}\acute{E}$ , XXVI, 1971, No. 3.

#### REMARKS:

Line 3: אשת חיל See Stone 35.

Line 5: The father may have belonged to the family of Ephraim Kohen.

140.

[י]שר[אל]	[I]sr[ael]
כד [ימים לחדש]	on the 24th [day of the month]

Discovered in 1969 in the building at 11 Szentháromság utca. See Stone 54.

This stone forms the sixth step.

Height: 155 cm; width: 43 cm; thickness: 27 cm.

Now in the Fehér Galamb restaurant (11 Szentháromság utca).

No inventory number.



Inscription 141

#### LITERATURE:

The text is first published here.

Reference: A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXV, 1970, No. 9.

141.

		Here [is hidden]
	כר אבר[הם בר]	R. Abra[ham, son of R.]
		[H]ershl
	כוה [ימים לחדש]	
5		[of the month of] Elul
	לפֿק	according to the minor era

Discovered in 1969 in the building at 11 Szentháromság utca. See Stone 54. It forms the eighth step.

Height: 155 cm; width: 43 cm; thickness: 27 cm.

Now in the Fehér Galamb restaurant (11 Szentháromság utca).

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

The text is first published here.

Reference: A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XXV, 1970, No. 9.

# REMARKS:

Line 3: רשל See Stone 54.



Inscription 142

# STOMFA (Stupava)

An organized Jewish religious community came into being in Stomfa only in the last quarter of the 17th century, under the patronage of the Pálffys. The Jews' livelihood was ensured by the old trading route towards Olmütz (Olomouc) and Brünn (Brno). After the expulsion of the Jews from Vienna in 1670, some well-to-do Jewish families settled here. Documents of the synagogue and cemetery have survived only from 1760 on (MZsO, XV, 212–3, No. 197), but that, of course, has no special significance. The first Jewish gravestone dates back to 1643. According to information from Jenő Bárkány, the stone is still to be found in the Stomfa cemetery; it is to him that we are indebted for the photographs as well.

142.

# MARCH 25, 1643

	ביום ד' ה' ניסן ת"ג לפ"ק	On Wednesday, in 403 [1643]—according to the minor era—on 5th of Nisan
	הי' דבר ד' אל אברם במחזה	the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision:
	מחזה שדי יחזה	"See the vision of the Almighty!"
	חכם עדיף מנביא	Scholar who is before the prophet.
5	וחוזה אשר יאמר	The seer of whom it is written:
	עליו כי הוא זה	"That is he."
	ה"ה המופל" והמשוב"	He is indeed our wonderful and praise-
		worthy
	מו"ה אברהם ב"ה	teacher, R. Abraham, son of R.
	אנשיל ז"ל ויסע	Anshel, his memory is blessed. And
10	משם אברהם	Abraham journeyed from thence
	ארצה ביום הנ"ל	toward the country on the day men-
		tioned above.

Dimensions unknown. Now in the Stomfa (Stupava) Jewish cemetery. No inventory number.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publications: M.S. Herzog: קרות בתיש, Stomfa, 5678 [1918], 6; corrected text with its German translation published by him: 'Geschichte der Juden in Stupava (Stampfen)', Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Juden in der Tschechoslowakei, II, 1931–2, 56. This reading has been adopted here.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: In Herzog's first publication In.

Line 2: Quotation from Genesis xv. 1. In the text and on the gravestone stands ברם

Line 3: Quotation from Numbers xxiv. 4.

Line 4: Phrase from the Talmud. See Baba b. 12a.

Line 6: Quotation from Exodus xxii. 8.

Line 7: ה"ה: This did not feature in Herzog's first publication.

Line 9: אנשיל אנשיל A German name, mostly accompanying אנשיל See L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 36; B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I, Vienna-Leipzig, 1912, 142, No. 185; 250, No. 327; O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 342–3, No. 103; A. Scheiber: Journal of Jewish Art, VII, 1980, 44. According to J.F. Gumpertz the versions ענולין and may indicate that the word "agnel" (lamb), by metathesis, became the name אנשיל (Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 458).

Line 10: Quotation from Genesis xx. 1.

# ROHONC

(Rechnitz)

The Jewish community of Rohonc may have come into being at the beginning of the 17th century, when the town was still Austrian. The Jewish community began to develop when Emperor Ferdinand III returned the Hungarian lands which had been annexed to Austria, and Rohonc, along with a large part of Vas County, became the property of the Batthyány family.<sup>35</sup> In 1687 there were 36 Jewish families, who were listed by name in Count Ádám Batthyány's safe-conduct. A document of 1702 makes mention of the synagogue (*MZsO*, XV, 34, No. 35). For quite some time, the Jewish community was one of the most distinguished in the country. Until the beginning of the 19th century, it acted as the centre for the Jews of three counties: Vas, Zala and Somogy. Its intellectual life also commenced quite early.<sup>36</sup>

By the latter half of the 17th century, the cemetery was already well ordered and Jews from far afield were being buried there. The site was purchased from the Batthyánys, and the cemetery remained in the same place although it was enlarged five times (the last time being in 1827). The oldest gravestones had already sunk into the ground by the mid-19th century, and Mayer Zipser, who was rabbi at that time and the community's first chronicler, was unable to decipher them. The oldest stone he was able to read dated from 1682, but, unfortunately, even of that he did not give the full text, only the name and date. At that time there was as yet no interest in epigraphy. Béla Bernstein followed Zipser's version, presumably without examining the stone personally.

143.

1681/2

משה ב"כ יחל כ"ץ Moses, son of R. Josel Kohen. 442 [1681–2] Dimensions unknown.

Before the Second World War, the stone was in the Jewish cemetery at Rohonc.

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: M. Zipser: 'Die Schicksale und Bestrebungen der israelitischen Gemeinde zu Rechnitz', *Ben Chananja*, VII, 1864, 349, 404; B. Bernstein: 'A zsidók története Vasmegyében' (The history of the Jews in Vas County), *MZsSz*, XXX, 1913, 164.

No photograph has survived.

Reference: B. Bernstein: 'Egy régi hitközség emlékeiből' (From the mementoes of an old Jewish community), MéJ, IV, 1914, 86.

#### REMARKS:

Line 1: יוול: One version of the name יוסר in Germany, along with and אבויי and אבויי. See B. Klar: מחקרים ועיונים, Tel Aviv, 1954, 70; A. Scheiber: Aresheth, II, Jerusalem, 1960, 408. The author was unable to obtain the two works on Jewish names in Germany (G. Kessler: Die Familiennamen der Juden in Deutschland, Leipzig, 1932; K. Krause: Die jüdische Namenwelt, Essen, 1943), and only knows them from Ch. Szmeruk's reference (Tarbiz, XXIX, 1959–60, 83). The sister of the Moses remembered on the gravestone seems to have been the donor of a silver Torah ornament dating from 1718 (M. Zipser: Ben Chananja, VII, 1864, 404).

Same line: 7" >: See Stone 85.

#### SOPRON

Hungarian Jewry had several links with the village of Ungarisch-Brod. For example, Israel Fränkel, a relative of the Buda rabbi Ephraim Kohen, was active there.<sup>37</sup> In 1683, the village was destroyed by the *kuruc* soldiers.<sup>38</sup> The earliest graveyard there was described as follows by an eye-witness: "The old cemetery,

which is extremely extensive and at least 500 years old, makes a very sad sight: fallen, broken, eroded and illegible gravestones—more than a thousand neglected gravestones can be seen here. On 'Rabbis' Knoll', where some 60 to 90 eminent men of Israel slumber in eternal dream, one can find, with the exception of a few epitaphs, only utterly illegible inscriptions on the gravestones, even though just a trifling quantity of goodwill and effort might save almost all of them for posterity. At a high and isolated spot in the graveyard I discovered a group of gravestones with legible inscriptions commemorating noted rabbis and scholars from other villages; however, they were covered with thorns and thistles, and tall trees had grown together over them, so that it was almost dangerous to approach." <sup>39</sup>

One of the gravestones concerns us closely, since it is to the memory of Rabbi Nathan, the son of Isaac, the Sopron rabbi. Isaac Ödenburg may have been the son of the Sopron rabbi, Jacob, and the grandson of Isaac, the Prague rabbi. 40 He obviously settled in Ungarisch-Brod after the expulsion of 1526, and died there. His father may have been the person who Jehiel Ashkenazi remembers in a letter from Jerusalem, dated 1565: "I call Heaven to witness that when I was in Austria some 36 years ago, the scholars of Austria and Moravia, including the pious R.J. Ödenburg (אודין בורגוי), of blessed memory, relied on this decision (of Joseph Colon)."

The son's gravestone, which is obviously 16th century although it has no date on it, bears the name of the father, the rabbi of Sopron.

144.

# LATTER HALF OF THE 16TH CENTURY

על אלה חשכו עינינו על עטרת שנפלה מראשנו

גאון עווינו מו"ה נטע שעשועים

מופלג בנגלה ובנסתר חסידא ופרושא For these things our eyes are dim, for the crown that is fallen from our head.

The pride of our power, our teacherrabbi, the pleasant plant, eminent in the revealed and esoteric matters alike, pious and ascetic, לא הניח כלום מתרת משה

עוף הפורח נשרף בהבל פיו כבמדורה ישמת בין טדי נטל ראשו כמר

נשמתו בגן עדן ועל ראשו כתר התורה לעטרה

ושמו הרב ר' נתן בן הגאון מ'

יצחק עדינבורג זצ"ל

ת'נצ'ב'ה

he omitted nothing from the Torah of Moses.

The flying bird burned in the breath of his lips as if in a pyre.

His soul is in the Garden of Eden and upon his head is the crown of the Torah as an ornament.

His name is R. Nathan, son of the Gaon, our teacher,

Isaac Ödenburg, the memory of the just is blessed.

May his soul be bound up in the bond of life.

Dimensions unknown.

Before the Second World War the stone was in the Jewish cemetery at Ungarisch-Brod.

No inventory number.

# LITERATURE:

Text publications: M. Stein: Magyar Rabbik (Hungarian rabbis), II, 1906, 56; idem: A Hagyomány Könyvtára. I. Naptár az 5682. évre (Library of tradition, I. Calendar for the year 5682), Bp., 1921, 63–4; A. Scheiber: Kirjath Sepher, XXIX, 1953–4, 430.

No photograph available.

#### REMARKS:

10

Line 1: Quotation from Lamentations v. 17. Stein erroneously writes

Line 2: Quotation from Lamentations v. 16.

Line 3: גאון עווינו: Cf. Leviticus xxvi. 19, etc.

Same line: נטע שעשועים: Cf. Isaiah v. 7.

Line 5: This is said of R. Jeshebab. See the elegy beginning ארזי הלבנון. Cf. I. Davidson: Thesaurus of Mediaeval Hebrew Poetry, I, New York, 1924, 343, No. 7564; סדר הקינות לתשעה באב. Ed. D. Goldschmidt, Jerusalem, 1968, 84, line 39.

Line 6: This is related of R. Huzpit in legend. See the elegy cited above. *Bet ha-Midrasch*, VI, ed. A. Jellinek, Jerusalem, 1938, 30; A. Scheiber: *AA*, XX, 1972, 424.

Same line: כמדורה: Stein writes מדורה, which is certainly an error. Line 7: נשמתו: cf. L. Zunz: Zur Geschichte und Literatur, Berlin, 1845, 457.

Same line: ועל ראשו: cf. Ber. 17a. The same phrase can be found later on the gravestone of the rabbi of Ungarisch-Brod, R. Natha, in 1683 (D. Kaufmann: MGWJ, XXXVII, 1893, 327).

#### **CSEPREG**

There is information about an early settlement of Jews in Csepreg. Mention is made in 1492 of the Zsidó utca (MZsO, V/1, 86, No. 193), but in 1327 there is no mention of a ritual bath or "Tuckhaus" (A. A. Lőwinger: A vasi zsidóság emlékkönyve (Memorial volume of the Jews of Vas), Tel Aviv—Jaffa, 1974, 34, 66). In 1662 Count Ferenc Nádasdy leased to György Szily the Csepreg customs and butcher's shop, which had formerly belonged to Daniel Sido,<sup>42</sup> who may have been a Jew. In 1676, the Csepreg noblemen, Mihály and Miklós Szily, and their associates attacked four Jews, who had been trading in Csepreg and set out from the town for some other place; they killed three of them and robbed them of their possessions and wares.<sup>43</sup>

Of greater importance in this context is the gravestone from 1600 in the old Jewish graveyard of Vienna, which commemorates the son of the Csepreg Jew Alexander, who died a martyr's death. So the father counts as a Hungarian Jew. Obviously, the few Jews who did appear in Csepreg would have come from Sopron or from one of the later "seven communities".

5

# MAY 1, 1600

בן הר	son of R
אלכסנדר	Alexander
טשיפרך זֹל	from Csepreg, his memory is blessed,
היד יום ב	May God revenge his blood! On Mon-
	day,
יז אייר	the 17th of Iyyar,
שם לפק	in 360 [1600], according to the minor era.
תנצבה	May his soul be bound up in the bond of
	life.

Height: 114 cm; width: 37 cm; thickness: 14 cm.

Before the Second World War, the stone was in the old Vienna Jewish cemetery.

Inventory No. 548.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publication: B. Wachstein: Die Inschriften des alten Judenfriedhofes in Wien, I, Vienna-Leipzig, 1912, 20, No. 20.

No photograph available.

## REMARKS:

Line 2: The name Alexander became popular among the Jews through the person of Alexander the Great. A century after his death, the name already appeared in Jewish history (L. Zunz: *Gesammelte Schriften*, II, 5; N. Avigad: *IEJ*, XII, 1962, 10).

Line 4: האוד: On this abbreviation beside the names of martyrs, see Stones 66 and 104.44

# TEMESVÁR (Timișoara)

The Turks capitulated at Temesvár on October 13, 1716, having held the city since July 30, 1552. According to a provision in the capitulation agreement, Serbs, Armenians, Jews and other aliens who had settled there, could either remain or depart. Twelve families of Turkish or Spanish Jews, i.e. Sephardic Jews, were living there at the time.

The first Jew known by name is Azriel Asael from Salonica, whose grave is still extant in the old Jewish cemetery.

According to M. Lőwy, the historian of the Temesvár Jews: "Zugleich ergiebt sich aus diesem letzteren Datum..., dass dieser Mann überhaupt der erste hier verstorbene Jude gewesen, oder auch nur, dass der Friedhof eigens für ihn angelegt worden sein müsse." The gravestones of many members of his family can be found in Salonica. The most recent item of information about Azriel is that he was a rabbi and a surgeon: "His gravestone is presumably the earliest known tombstone of a physician in the country." The author of the sentence quoted took it from the work of Jakab Singer, where, however, it reads: "The ancestor of the Assaels was a surgeon or miraculous healer, who performed miracles of healing, and from that comes the Hebrew name: 'Assa El', God performed it." This conclusion cannot be drawn from the name, which already occurs in the Bible (II Samuel ii. 18). On first publishing the text of the stone, M. Lőwy wrote: "Die Aufschrift des erst vor einigen Jahren auf der Schriftseite liegend aufgefunden, doch noch ganz vollkommen erhaltenen (jetzt wieder aufgerichteten), grossen und massiven Steines lautet wörtlich..."



Inscription 146

### MAY 13, 1636

אוי נוטל Alas, there has been taken away שברו של the fragments האיש חשוב הח of the worthy man, the erudite עזריאל עשאל Azriel Asael, נ"ע תושב שלונק may he have peace in Eden, an inhabitant of Salonica, יע"ה נפטר לבית may [the town] become ever stronger. He died for the house עולמו יום ששי of eternal life, on Friday, שמונ[ה] לחדש the 8th day of the month אייר שצו לפק Iyyar, in 396 [1636], according to the minor era, ליצירה 10 after the Creation.

Height: 156 cm; width: 67 cm; thickness: 32 cm. Now in the old Jewish cemetery in Temesvár. Inventory No. Row 31, left, No. 31.

#### LITERATURE:

Text publication: M. Lőwy: Skizzen zur Geschichte der Juden in Temesvár, Szeged, 1890, 2.

Photograph: J. Singer: Temesvári rabbik a XVIII. és XIX-ik században (Temesvár rabbis in the 18th and 19th centuries), Seini (Szinérváralja), 1928, 60; M. Carmilly-Weinberger: 'Sephardic Jews in the Development of Transylvania', The American Sephardi, I, 1967, No. 2, 44; L. Erdélyi: Régi zsidó temetők művészete (The art of old Jewish cemeteries), Bucharest, 1980, No. 82.

Reference: A. Scheiber: MN, XXXVI, 1980, No. 193.

#### REMARKS:

Line 2: מברו A reference to the tradition that "the stone tablets and the fragments of the stone tablets were also included in the Ark of the Covenant" (Ber. 8b; Baba b. 14b; Men. 99a).

Line 4: עוריאל: A biblical name (I Chronicles v. 24; xxvii. 19). Both on the stone and in Löwy it is written as two words. See also O. Muneles and M. Vilímková: op. cit., 296–7, No. 82. — עשאל: In the Bible עשהאל (II Samuel ii. 18). See M. Black: JJS, XXXIII, 1982, 231–2.

Line 5: נוחו עדן: L. Zunz: Zur Geschichte und Literatur, Berlin, 1845, 457.

Line 6: יע"ה: An abbreviation of יע"ה.

Lines 6–7: נפטר לבית עולמו: This occurs frequently on gravestones in Salonica. See I. S. Emmanuel: מצבות שאלוניקי, I, Jerusalem, 1963, Nos. 2, 8, 17, etc.

#### NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> M. Markbreiter: Beiträge zur Geschichte der jüdischen Gemeinde Eisenstadt, Vienna, 1908, 13.
- <sup>2</sup> E. Hermann: Budáról Belgrádba 1663-ban. Ottendorff Henrik képes útleírása (From Buda to Belgrade in 1663. Henrik Ottendorff's illustrated travelogue), Pécs, 1943, 98–9; MZsO, VIII, 280, No. 354.
  - 3 MZsO, VI, 62, No. 77.
  - <sup>4</sup> V. Bedy: Kunz Jenő Emlékkönyv (Jubilee volume for Jenő Kunz), Győr, 1934, 58-9.
  - <sup>5</sup> MZsO, VIII, 282-3, No. 359; A. Scheiber: Hebräische Kodexüberreste, 97-8.
- <sup>6</sup> B. Lewis: Notes and Documents from the Turkish Archives, Jerusalem, 1952, 6; Eretz-Israel, IV, Jerusalem, 1956, 174.
- <sup>7</sup> A. Cohen and B. Lewis: Population and Revenue in the Towns of Palestine in the Sixteenth Century, Princeton, 1978, 159-61; Gy. Káldy-Nagy: MIOK Évkönyve, 1979-80, 194-5. After 1617, the Ashkenazi community of Jerusalem kept up correspondence with nine communities, including the one at Buda (M. Kosover: Arabic Elements in Palestinian Yiddish, Jerusalem, 1966, 381).
- <sup>8</sup> E. Vass: 'Zsidók a hódoltsági török forrásokban' (Jews in the Turkish sources on the occupation), MZsO, XVIII, Bp., 1980, 11.
- <sup>9</sup> Evlia Cselebi török világutazó magyarországi utazásai. 1660–1664 (The Turkish globetrotter Evlia Chelebi's travels in Hungary), transl. I. Karácson, Bp., 1904, 250.
  - 10 F. Szakály in Izsák Schulhof: Budai krónika (Buda chronicle), Bp., 1979, 81.
  - 11 E. Vass: op. cit., 29.
  - <sup>12</sup> A. Scheiber: TBM, XIX, 1972, 79-86; idem: JJS, XXIII, 1972, 191-5.
  - 13 I. Feuer: MIOK Évkönyve, 1971-2, 61.
- <sup>14</sup> M. T. Papp: 'Baudenkmäler im mittelalterlichen Judenviertel der Budaer (Ofner) Burg', ATE, LXVII, 1970, 205-25; L. Zolnay: BpR, XXII, 1971, 276; idem: Az elátkozott Buda Buda aranykora, Bp., 1982, 109-111; idem: Fény és árnyék a középkori Magyarországon, Bp., 1983, 73. See the inscriptions on the walls of Tykocin great Synagogue: A. Pakentreger: Biuletyn Żydowskiego Instytutu Historycznego w Polsce, 1982, Nos. 3-4, 99-108.
  - 15 MZsO, II, 529, No. 31.
  - 16 MZsO, V/1, 70-71, No. 167.
  - <sup>17</sup> S. Büchler: A zsidók története Budapesten (History of the Jews in Budapest), Bp., 1901, 99.
  - <sup>18</sup> L. Fekete: TBM, VI, 1938, 118, 130.
  - 19 A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, XV, 1959, No. 9.
  - <sup>20</sup> F. Grünvald: Jubilee Volume in Honour of Prof. B. Heller, Bp., 1941, 167.
  - <sup>21</sup> A. Scheiber: ÚÉ, VII, 1951, No. 15; X, 1954, No. 12; XII, 1956, No. 1.
- <sup>22</sup> H. Horváth: A Fővárosi Múzeum Kőemléktárának leíró lajstroma (Descriptive list of the stone collection of the capital city museum), Bp., 1932, 18–19.
  - <sup>23</sup> A. Scheiber: AO, II, 1952, 124.
- <sup>24</sup> The gravestone of Kohen Ephraim, the noted Buda rabbi who died in 1678, has also disappeared. "It is related by Rabbi Samuel Löw Brill that his late father knew a man called Jakob Berlin, who died at the beginning of this century. This man alleged he knew from tradition the place

of the grave of Ephraim beside the castle wall, and that on days of penance he would go and pray at the grave of Ephraim." [M. Schwarcz: Kohen Efrájim ó-budai rabbi élete és responsumai (The life and responsa of the Óbuda rabbi, Kohen Ephraim), Bp., 1887, 35.].

- <sup>25</sup> M. Horler: Budapest műemlékei (Art monuments of Budapest), I, Bp., 1955, 322.
- 26 MZsO, IX, Bp., 1966, 247, No. 359.
- 27 UI, 1930, I, 432-6.
- <sup>28</sup> L. Kun: A veszprémi zsidóság múltja és jelene (The past and present of the Veszprém Jewry), Karcag, 1932, 10.
  - <sup>29</sup> S. Krausz: *IMIT Évkönyve*, 1932, 155.
  - 30 N. Kochev: Annual, IX, Sofia, 1974, 121-2.
- <sup>31</sup> Jakob von Betzek: Gesandtschaftreise nach Ungarn und in die Türkei im Jahre 1564/65, ed. K. Nehring, Munich, 1979, 22.
- <sup>32</sup> S. Büchler: op. cit., 106. L. Fekete emphasizes the Jews of Polish origin in *Budapest a törökkorban* (Budapest in the Turkish period), Bp., 1944, 162–3, 243.
  - 33 D. Kaufmann: IMIT Évkönyve, 1895, 63-4; A. Fürst: IMIT Évkönyve, 1936, 168.
- <sup>34</sup> See L. Fekete's study: 'Ofener Kaufleute zur Zeit der Türkenherrschaft', *Die Welt des Islam. Sonderband*, 1941, 98–108; L. Fekete and Gy. Káldy-Nagy: *Rechnungsbücher türkischer Finanzstellen in Buda (Ofen)*. 1550–1580, Bp., 1962; A. Scheiber: *REJ*, CXXIII, 1964, 233–7; M. A. Epstein: *The Ottoman Jewish Communities and their Role in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries*, Freiburg, 1981, Index entry under Buda.
- <sup>35</sup> B. Bernstein: 'A zsidók története Vasmegyében' (History of the Jews in Vas County), MZsSz, XXX, 1913, 163.
- <sup>36</sup> A. Scheiber: 'An illustrated Mohel Book from Rohonc', Studies in Bibliography and Booklore, III, 1957, 3–8. It is not known who illustrated the Rohonc Haftorah scroll. Meshullam Zimel has been suggested (Biblos, VIII, 1959, 88), but he cannot be accepted if one compares surviving photographs of the scroll with known works by that illustrator (A. Scheiber: 'An Illuminated Birkat Ha-Mazon Manuscript and Its Copyist', Studies in Bibliography and Booklore, III, 1958, 115–21; idem: Biblos, XVIII, 1969, 180–1). On the Hevra Book of Rohonc see: Burgenländisches Landesarchiv. 1000 Jahre Österreichisches Judentum, Eisenstadt, 1982, 385–6, No. 222.
  - <sup>37</sup> S. Büchler: op. cit., 149.
- <sup>38</sup> D. Kaufmann: 'Die Verheerung von Ungarisch Brod durch den Kuruzzenüberfall vom 14. Juli 1683', MGWJ, XXXVII, 1893, 270-82, 319-31.
- <sup>39</sup> M.M. Stein: 'Két magyar sírkő Ung.-Brodban' (Two Hungarian gravestones in Ung.-Brod), Magyar Rabbik (Hungarian rabbis) II, 1906, 55; reprinted in: A Hagyomány Könyvtára, I. Naptár az 5682. évre (Library of the tradition, I. Calendar for the year 5682), Bp., 1921, 63-4; Szombati Ért., IV, 1930, No. 201.
  - <sup>40</sup> M. Pollák: A zsidók története Sopronban (History of the Jews in Sopron), Bp., 1896, 93.
- <sup>41</sup> S. Assaf: מקורות מנחה מנחה מנחה (in Hebrew), Jerusalem, 1935, 233; idem: מקורות ומחקרים בתולדות ישראל, Jerusalem, 1946, 225–6. S. Klein identified the placename with Ödenburg, i.e. Sopron (MéJ, XXV, 1935, 266; ידיעות החברה העברית, III, 1935, 108).
  - 42 MZsO, V/1, 373-4, No. 684.
  - 43 MZsO, II, 130-31, No. 144.
- <sup>44</sup> The oldest stone of the graveyard at Ilava is said to date from 1659, within the period in question, but we do not know its text. See J. Nathan Káčer: 300 Jahre Chewra-Kadischa Ilava, Ilava,

- 1929, 9. Appendix No. I presents 17th century gravestones, but their texts are illegible. There were two old gravestones in Köpcsény (Kittsee): that of Abraham Hakohen from 1661, and that of the cantor Michael b. Moses Simon from 1674 (Magyar Rabbik, II, 1906, 126).
  - <sup>45</sup> M. Löwy: Skizzen zur Geschichte der Juden in Temesvár bis zum Jahre 1865, Szeged, 1890, 1.
  - <sup>46</sup> I. S. Emmanuel: מצבות שאלוניקי II, Jerusalem, 1968, 946.
- <sup>47</sup> L. Erdélyi: *Régi zsidó temetők művészete* (The art of old Jewish cemeteries), Bucharest, 1980, 9.
- <sup>48</sup> J. Singer: *Temesvári rabbik a XVIII. és XIX.-ik században* (Temesvár rabbis in the 18th and 19th Centuries), Seini (Szinérváralja), 1928, 1.
- <sup>49</sup> M. Löwy: op. cit., 2. See now S. Andreev: Levéltári Közlemények, XLVIII/XLIX, 1978, 195–214.



# MISCELLANEOUS INSCRIPTIONS

Apart from the inscriptions carved in stone, only eight inscribed objects have survived from the past of the Hungarian Jewry. In this connection there have again been false reports. Let me quote an example or two. A coin dug up at Sátoraljaújhely, showing a Hungarian helmeted warrior on one side and the Hebrew text of Exodus xx. 3 on the other, was said to be of Khazar origin. According to another report: "In Nagyvárad castle... there has been found a goblet of which the Hebrew inscription reads: Moses ben Sopher to the Nagyvárad Jewish community 1450." The falsity of these two assertions brooks no denial.

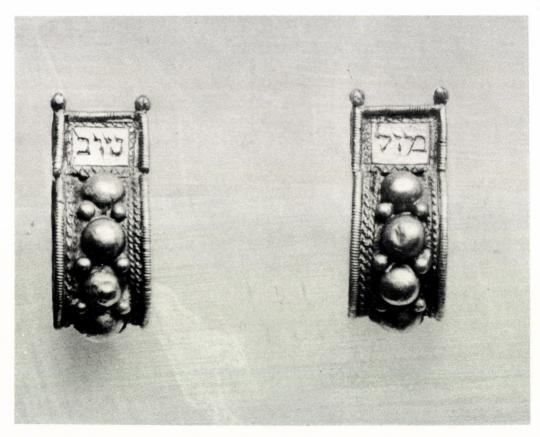
The eight surviving objects introduced here date from the period of the Turkish occupation.

# I. BRIDAL RING

# 16th-17th century

"One of the most splendid relics of our cultural history is the Jewish bridal ring of pure gold which was found in Iskola utca. The broad, solid golden band has nine main bosses, with smaller granulated orbs wedged between. Two sides of the frame have lines of filigree work. The head is in the shape of a roof; as an engagement ring it symbolizes the family home. The roof is adorned with the wish for a lucky star in Hebrew letters: 'much luck'".

More accurately the inscription reads:



Bridal Ring (Inscription 147)

# מזל טוב Good luck!

Discovered in 1861 in Pest during the digging of some foundations in Iskola utca downtown.

Thickness: 17 mm; circumference: 9 cm; the triangular projection: 3 cm. Now in the Hungarian National Museum. Inventory No. 9/1861.

## LITERATURE:

References: M. Oberschall in: L. Fekete: Budapest a törökkorban (Budapest under the Turks), Bp., 1944, 367.

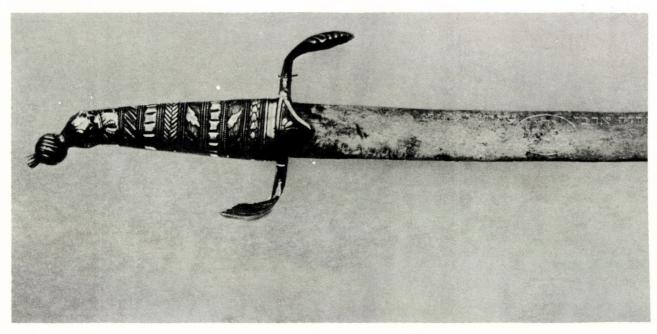
Photographs: Ararat, Bp., 1942, in the appendix between pp. 40 and 41; L. Fekete: Budapest a törökkorban, Bp., 1944, Table LXXXVI, Picture 12.

#### REMARKS:

מזל טוב can first be found in Aramaic language in Targum Jerushalmi I ad Genesis xxx. 11: אתא מזלא טבא. In Hebrew it appears first in Otiyot di R. Akiba: ואם יש אדם שנולד במזל טוב (Ozar Midrashim, ed. J. D. Eisenstein, New York, 1928, 412; L. Löw: Ges. Schr., II, Szeged, 1890, 115–31).

Quite a few similar rings with the same inscription are to be found in collections abroad, with the top of the ring showing a house, synagogue or castle. See Hana Volavková: The Jewish Museum of Prague, Prague, 1948, Fig. 8; Stephen S. Kayser and Guido Schoenberger: Jewish Ceremonial Art, Philadelphia, 1955, 152–3, Nos 164–166; Z. Efron and C. Roth: האמנות היהודית, Tel Aviv, 1957, 394, Fig. 169; Cecil Roth: The Standard Jewish Encyclopedia, New York, 1959, 1906; Synagoga, Kultgeräte und Kunstwerke, Recklinghausen, 1960–61, C 271–94; J. Gutmann: Jüdische Zeremonialkunst, Frankfurt a/M, 1963, 63a, 63b; Ph. H. Goodman: The Jewish Marriage Anthology, Philadelphia, 1965, 108–09; Judaica, Kölnisches Stadtmuseum, ed. Liesel Franzheim, Cologne, 1980, 258, No. 100; G. Seidmann: 'Marriage Rings Jewish Style', The Connoisseur, January 1981, 48–51; V. Klagsbald: Catalogue raisonné de la collection juive du musée de Cluny, Paris, 1981, 44–45, Nos. 35–38. There are some others to be found in Hungary as well: IMIT Évkönyve, 1916, 395; B. Kohlbach: MéJ, XXVI, 1936, 230.

According to the Mishnah (Yoma 1: 1): "His wife is his house" (A. Scheiber: MIOK Évkönyve 1979/80, 315).



Ceremonial sword (Inscription 148)

# II. CEREMONIAL SWORD WITH HEBREW INSCRIPTION

# 17th century

A Hebrew inscription in silver letters can be read on the blade, in a straight line along the back:

148.

# יהוה אדני עז ישועתי

O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation

The other Hebrew inscription is framed in a medallion:

יהי שם יהוה מבורך

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Discovered in 1867 at an exhibition of the Pest Fine Arts Society. By that time it was already in the possession of Count Manó Andrássy.

Length: 84 cm; breadth: 3 cm; it has a 17° curve.

Damascus steel.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

Inventory No. 4414.

#### LITERATURE:

References: Ben Chananja, X, 1867, 241; Egyenlőség, XXXI, 1912, No. 3; Magyar Zsidó Lexikon (Hungarian Jewish Encyclopedia), Bp., 1929, 352; A. Scheiber: Yad La-Kore, III, 1952, 87; F. Grünvald: 'A héber feliratú díszkard (A Praefectus Judaeorum kardja?)' [The ceremonial sword with the Hebrew inscription (The sword of the Praefectus Judaeorum?)], ÚÉ, IX, 1953, No. 12.

# REMARKS:

Line 1: Quotation from Psalms cxl. 8.

Lines 2-4: Quotation from Psalm cxiii. 2.

The sword has long inspired much speculation.

The columnist in Egyenlőség (XXXI, 1912, No. 3), gave a faulty text and surmised that the sword might have belonged to Teka, the count of the chamber (at the beginning of the 13th century). According to László Újváry, "it dates from the second half of the 14th century" (Magyar Zsidó Lexikon, Bp., 1929, 352). Samuel Kohn examined it in Count Manó Andrássy's home and expressed the opinion that presumably "the sword originally belonged to the Jewish praefectus, Mendel, who was in the habit of appearing in Hungarian ceremonial dress" [A zsidók története Magyarországon (History of the Jews in Hungary), I, Bp., 1884, 46]. Even later he adhered to this view: "What an interesting illustration of the historical fact that the 'national Jewish prefect' (praefectus omnium Judaeorum), who represented all the Hungarian Jews from the time of King Mátyás until the disaster of Mohács, used to appear at the royal court in Hungarian ceremonial dress" (IMIT Évkönyve, 1896, 58-9). Lajos Venetianer imagined the sword in the hand of Mendel on the occasion of Matthias Corvinus' entry into Buda [A magyar zsidóság története (History of the Hungarian Jewry), Bp., 1922, 42]. When it was exhibited after discovery, it was marked as dating from the time of King Ulászló II (Ben Chananja, X, 1867, 241).

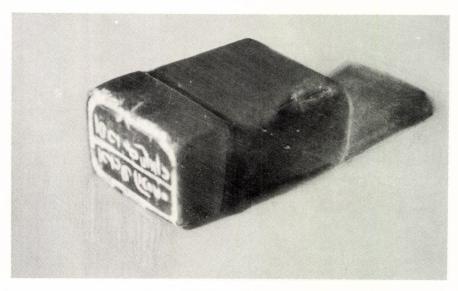
Expert examination has established that the sword dates from the 17th century. The Hebrew inscription, which is inlaid, is of the same age as the blade, as the silver letters could only have been set in before the blade had completely hardened. The hilt and sheath are silver. The sheath dates from the end of the 18th century. One cannot say for certain that it is the work of a Jewish craftsman, but it is to be taken for granted that it was made to the order of a Jew.

"It is generally known that in the 17th and 18th centuries, ordinary Jews (among whom were the craftsmen) were only familiar with the extracts from the

Bible and with psalms that featured in the liturgy. The quotation on the ceremonial sword in question (Psalm cxl. 8) does not come from a liturgical psalm. At first sight it is not even easy to recognize that the quotation is appropriate for the sword. The sentence must have been selected by someone familiar with the Bible, who knew how the quotation ended: 'thou hast covered my head in the day of battle'. The tetragrammaton J.H.V.H. is written out on the sword in four letters, which is out of keeping with Jewish tradition. So the quotation must come from an expert who had no inhibitions about writing the tetragrammaton out in full. Since the period in question is the 17th or 18th century, it is possible that a non-Jewish swordsmith asked a non-Jewish scholar for a Hebrew text as an amulet, and the Hebraist drew the text for the craftsman, who copied it automatically" (M. Richtmann: AT, IX, 1962, 139).

It was purchased by the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection in 1951.





The Seal of Rakamaz (Inscription 149)

### III. THE SEAL OF RAKAMAZ

### 17th century

The inscription in cursive script reads:

149.

## יחיאל שרגא בן מנחם גרשן

Yehiel Shraga, son of Menahem Gershon

Discovered in 1888, after the abatement of a Tisza flood, when a caving-in of the bank revealed a cultural layer 1–2 metres thick over a distance of 600 paces, between Rakamaz and Tímár.

Height: 1.5 cm; width: 2.4 cm; thickness: 3 cm.

It is made of serpentine.

Now in the András Jósa Museum at Nyíregyháza.

Inventory No. I. 1694.

### LITERATURE:

References: A. Jósa:  $A\acute{E}$ , XII, 1892, 205–07; idem: Adalékok Zemplén-Vármegye Történetéhez, VIII, 1902, 125–6; A. Fischer: ibid. 157–9; L. Szabolcsi:  $D\acute{e}lib\acute{a}b$ , Bp., 1927, 5–6; A. Neumann: Szabolcsi  $zsid\acute{o}k$  (Szabolcs Jews), [Nyíregyháza, 1940,] 4; L. Szilágyi-Windt: A kállói cádik. A nagykállói  $zsid\acute{o}s\acute{a}g$  története, Tel Aviv, (1960), 10; A. Jósa:  $R\acute{e}g\acute{e}szeti$  és műzeumi vonatkozású hírlapi cikkei (1901–1907) (Articles on archaeology and museums in newspapers, 1901–7), Nyíregyháza, 1968, 45–7.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: יחיאל: A biblical name (Ezra viii. 9, etc.).

Same line: אשרגא: Aramaic word from the Talmud, meaning "torch" (J. Levy: Neuhebräisches und Chaldäisches Wörterbuch, IV, 609). It often features

as a given name as well. It is usually accompanied by the name שריבוש, which is generally considered to be Phoebus (L. Zunz: Gesammelte Schriften, II, 26). But J.F. Gumpertz has provided evidence that it derived from the transcription into Hebrew letters of the French "vives" i.e. חיים (Tarbiz, XXV, 1955–6, 347). See also A. Linksz: Visszanézek... (I Look Back...), New York, 1977, 88–9.

Published material so far has drawn some romantic conclusions about this seal. In the layer where it was found "objects from the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages occur together". Despite the opinion of Ármin Vámbéry that "judging from the form of the letters it cannot be very old", its discoverer, András Jósa, still stuck by his theory that it dated from ancient times: "However, I cannot rest satisfied with that last statement, since I have found no object that would be more recent than the period of the migration on that large prehistoric site" (A. Jósa: Adalékok Zemplén-Vármegye Történetéhez, VIII, 1902, 125–6). Emil Hofmann accepted Jósa's romantic conclusion: "It is known that in Salonica there lives an old Jewish patrician family called Sheraga; according to tradition, they fled from Palestine in the reign of Vespasian. It is possible that as early as the first centuries this same family came to our region, too, and along with them perhaps several other Jews who had been expelled from Palestine" ['A zsidó hitközségek Szabolcs vármegyében' (Jewish communities in Szabolcs County) in S. Borovszky: Szabolcs vármegye (Szabolcs county), Bp., 1900, 366].

From the cursive lettering, it is clear that the seal should be dated to the end of the Turkish occupation at the earliest.

### IV. ARK CURTAIN FROM ROHONC

Mention has already been made of the Rohonc Jewish religious community (see No. 143). In the first half of the 17th century the community only had a prayer house. A splendid, spacious synagogue was built only in 1718 with the support of Samson Wertheimer. In 1864 the site of the earlier prayer house was still known. Among the earliest possessions of the prayer house was a curtain of the Ark of the Covenant dating from 1649; much worn, it remained in the possession of the community until the devastations of fascism. Nothing is known of its whereabouts today.

1649

זאת נדבו נשים צדקניות This was donated by pious women. 409 [1649], according to the minor era.

Dimensions unknown.

Before the Second World War, it was in the possession of the Rohonc Jewish community.

No inventory number.

### LITERATURE:

Text publications: M. Zipser: 'Die Schicksale und Bestrebungen der israelitischen Gemeinde zu Rechnitz', Ben Chananja, VII, 1864, 405, 407; E. Bernstein: 'A zsidók története Vasmegyében', MZsSz, XXX, 1913, 163.

No photograph has survived.

Reference: B. Bernstein: 'Egy régi hitközség emlékeiből' (From the mementos of an old community), MéJ, IV, 1914, 86.

### REMARKS:

Line 1: נשים צדקניות: A Talmudic phrase (Sanh. 112a). See also Z. Avneri: REJ, CXXI, 1962, 193, No. 18.



Fragments of the Hanukah Menorah

### V. HANUKAH MENORAH

### 17th century

In 1936, excavations were going on in the Tabán district of Buda when an object came to light in two pieces from the No. II building. Today it bears the numbers 2905/A and 2905/B. In the inventory book (pp. 126–8) the same object features as 1063–1064, with the following text: "1063... one half of a bullet-founding mould. Bronze. 17th century. Size:  $6.8 \times 7.7 \times 2.0$  cm; 1064... bullet-founding mould. Bronze. 17th century. Size:  $6.7 \times 8.6 \times 2.1$  cm. Of the same size and material as No. 1063. From the fracture on one side, one would conclude it probably broke off from it." Sándor Garády is alone in having published a few words about it: "The lower part of a double bullet-mould, from which a third has presumably broken off. It may date from the 17th century." Garády also published a picture of one of the pieces. He was correct in taking the two fragments to be parts of one objects, but he did not recognize its original function. The dating is correct, as most of the material found along with it is Turkish, and from the time of the Turkish occupation.

The museologist Győző Gerő kindly drew my attention to the object. It is undoubtedly a Hanukah Menorah, with its back missing, and the three pieces broken off the oil-font that had ended in eight narrow protruding mouths. It is easy to identify the type, as M. Narkiss, the late director of the Bezalel Museum wrote an excellent monograph in Hebrew on the Hanukah Menorah. His ornate work also includes pictures of the Menorahs of various ages. Menorahs similar to this one were made from the 16th century onwards in Italy (IX. 27), Holland (XIII. 37) and Turkey (XIV. 40), and from the 18th century onwards in Eastern Europe (XXVII. 76), Bohemia (XXXIII. 93), and Germany (LI). From Hungary, no such Menorah was known till then. Unfortunately, we can draw conclusions only from the shape of the oil-font, as the back, which was usually decorated in the way typical of the area, is missing.

With its discovery, a new spot can be marked on the map showing where Menorahs have been found, and a new type of object has been added to the corpus of Jewish material relics in Hungary. The object has been mentioned here even though the surviving pieces do not bear an inscription, nor could they have.

Discovered in 1936 in building No. II in the Tabán. Length: 11 cm; height: 1.5 cm; width: 6.5 cm. Now in the Budapest Historical Museum. Inventory Nos 2905 A; 2905 B.

### LITERATURE:

References: S. Garády: BpR, XIV, 1945, 418; A. Scheiber: 'Chanukkamécses a törökkori Budáról' (A Hanukah Menorah from Buda from the Turkish period),  $U\hat{E}$ , XV, 1959, No. 24.

Photograph: BpR, XIV, 1945, 492, Picture 27.

### VI. BRACELET

### 17th century

Of this object, which comes from Ung County, the following can be read: "In 1886, two ... bronze bracelets came into my possession, which are not filed around the edges, weigh forty-four decagrammes, and have Jewish letters ... carved on them."

151.

ווי העמוד the hooks of the pillars.

Discovered in Ung County.

Diameter: 11.5 cm; thickness: 4 cm in the middle. Formerly in the possession of Tivadar Lehoczky.

### LITERATURE:

Text publication: T. Lehoczky: Adatok hazánk archaeológiájához, különös tekintettel Bereg megyére és környékére (Data on Hungary's archaeology, with special attention to Bereg County and its environs), I, Munkács (Mukachevo), 1892, 151.

No photograph extant.

### REMARKS:

ווי העמוד: Exodus xxvii. 10.

### VII. TRENDERLI

### 17th century

Discovered in Zamárdi in 1982 by the archeologist Edith Bárdos during the excavation of Avar graves, at a depth of 30 cm. According to László Költő, it waş made of pure lead, no trace of any other metal was found.

The trenderli (or dreydel) was already used as a toy by Greek and Roman children, the latter called it *turbo*. It is a kind of spinning-top.

The Jews became acquainted with this toy in the Middle Ages, and played with it on the eight days of Chanukah. The four sides of the one in question bear the Hebrew letters: *Nun, Gimmel, He, Shin,* alliterating the German words N-ichts, G-anz, H-alb, S-tell ein, as the game was originally played by the neighbouring Germans on New Year's Day.<sup>8</sup> The stake was nuts, beans or maize.

The shape of the letters indicate that it was made in the 17th century.<sup>9</sup> My attention was called on the toy by Professor R. Dan.

The inscription runs as follows:

152.

1 = Nun 1 = Gimmel 1 = He 2 = Shin

Discovered in Zamárdi in 1982. Height: 3 cm; width: 1 cm. Now in the Kaposvár county museum. No inventory number.

LITERATURE:

Text and photograph first published here.





Trenderli (Inscription 152)





Trenderli (Inscription 152)

## VIII. PAIR OF RIMMONIM 1602

A pair of red copper embossed and engraved Rimmonim. There are two balls with sarmentous leaves engraved on its cylindrical stem. Its top is of a pomegranate shape ornamented with pomegranate engravings. It is a Turkish work, or the work of Turks of Hungary.

On the upper rim of both we find the same Hebrew script engraved:

Zevi Hersh, son of David, may his Rock and Redeemer guard him, 362 [1602].

On the bottom rim of both we find again an identical text:

Of the Holy Community of the Pest Sephardim.

Height: 34 cm; circumference: 35 cm (above); 12 cm (below). Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection. Inventory No. 64.386.



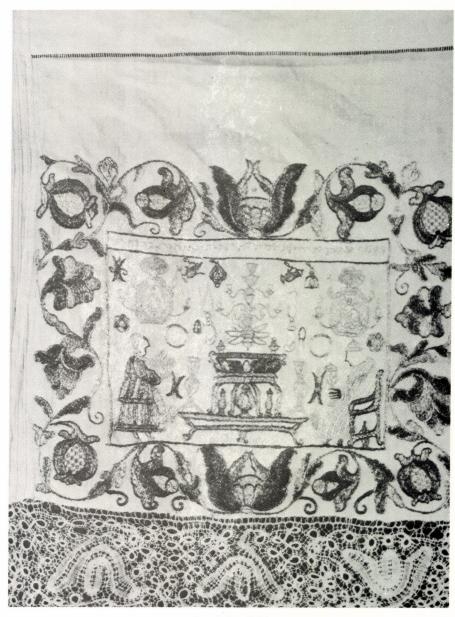
Inscription 153



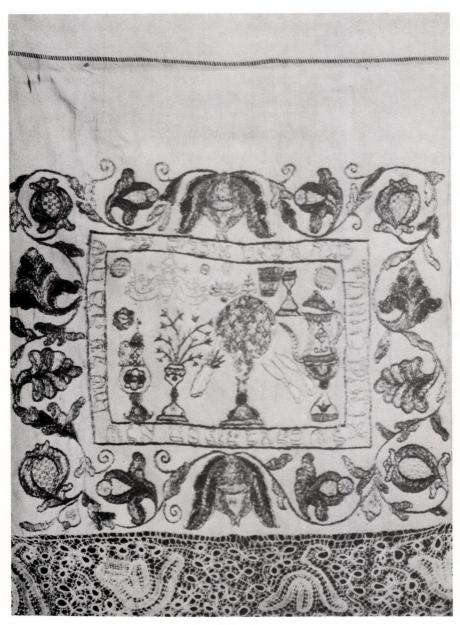
Detail of Inscription 153/1



Detail of Inscription 153/2



Inscription 154/1 (The right-hand side)



Inscription 154/2 (The left-hand side)

### IX. COVER FOR PASSOVER DISH

### 17th Century

Linen cover with silk-threaded coloured embroidery and linen trim with lace. Assembled from two parts. Tulips on its lower hem.

In the middle of the right-hand side of the cover an embroidered festive board, with two candles. On the left part we see the lady of the house raising her hands for grace towards the candles. On the right side the host is seated in an armchair, with a chalice in his hand. There is a Passover Dish, above a Sabbath lamp, along with two mazzot and the cutlery.

Above embroidered Hebrew script goes as follows:

## האלוף זה קניין כהרר יואל שמ ואשתו יאכט תי בת כהרר אברהם זל

This precious piece is the property of R. Joel Sam[uel] and his wife Yachet — may she live long —, the daughter of Abraham of blessed memory.

On the left-hand piece there is also a Sabbath lamp, together with tankards, a glass, flowers in a vase, a stylized tree, knife, fork and two mazzot.

A sentence from the Passover Haggadah enframes the four sides of the rectangle:

## מצה זו שאנו אוכלים על / שום מה על שום / שלא הספיק בצקם של / אבותינו להחמיץ

This Unleavened Bread which we eat — because of what is it? It is because there was no time for the dough of our fathers to become leavened.

The lace comes from Hungary, the embroidery is Turkish. It was made in the middle of the 17th century, in Hungary.

Height: 58 cm; width: 87 cm.

Now in the Jewish Religious and Historical Collection.

Inventory No. 64.1233.

### LITERATURE:

The texts are published here for the first time. For analogy see M.V. Ember: *Úrihímzés* (Embroidery). Bp., 1981. No. 130, Fig. 62.

### REMARKS:

יאכט: L. Zunz: Ges. Schr. II, 49: Jachet and Jachent; Germania Judaica, II, Tübingen, 1968, 733: Jachand.

ז: in the original is לל by mistake.

### **NOTES**

- <sup>1</sup> M. Szabolcsi: 'Utazás egy érem körül' (Journey around a coin), *Egyenlőség*, XIV, 1895, No. 26.
  - <sup>2</sup> Egyenlőség, XIV, 1895, No. 48; Zsidó Híradó, V, 1895, No. 44.
- <sup>3</sup> M. Oberschall's publication in: L. Fekete: *Budapest a törökkorban* (Budapest under the Turks) Bp., 1944, 367.
  - <sup>4</sup> M. Zipser: Ben Chananja, VII, 1864, 354; B. Bernstein: MZsSz, XXX, 1913, 163.
  - <sup>5</sup> S. Garády: BpR, XIV, 1945, 418.
  - 6 S. Garády: ibid., p. 429, Picture 27.
  - <sup>7</sup> M. Narkiss: מנורת החנוכה, Jerusalem, 1939.
- <sup>8</sup> Y.-T. Lewinsky: Enc. Jud., VII, Jerusalem, 1971, 306; A. Scheiber: MIOK Évkönyve 1981/82, 370–71; Á. Együd: Somogyi Múzeumok Közleményei, IV/5, Kaposvár, 1981, 101.
  - 9 אות היא לעולם. Ed. M. Spitzer, Jerusalem, 1981.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AA Acta Antiqua

AAH Acta Archaeologica Hungarica

AdRN Aboth di Rabbi Nathan
AÉ Archaeológiai Értesítő
AK Archaeológiai Közlemények

AO Acta Orientalia

AOH Acta Orientalia Hungarica

AT Antik Tanulmányok ATE Acta Technica

Bp Budapest

BpR Budapest Régiségei

CIJ Corpus Inscriptionum Judaicarum
CIL Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum

DLZ Deutsche Literaturzeitung Enc. Jud. Encyclopaedia Judaica

EPhK Egyetemes Philológiai Közlöny

Évkönyv Annual

HJ Historia Judaica

HUCA Hebrew Union College Annual IEJ Israel Exploration Journal

IMIT Izraelita Magyar Irodalmi Társulat

JJS Journal of Jewish Studies JQR Jewish Quarterly Review JSS Journal of Semitic Studies

MéJ Múlt és Jövő

MGWJ Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums

MIOK Magyar Izraeliták Országos Képviselete

MKÉ Múzeumi és Könyvtári Értesítő

MM Magyar Múzeum MN Magyar Nemzet MNy Magyar Nyelv

MZsO Magyar Zsidó Oklevéltár MZsSz Magyar Zsidó Szemle

NHQ The New Hungarian Quarterly

NK Numizmatikai Közlöny NPJ Neues Pester Journal Nyr Magyar Nyelvőr

PAAJR Proceedings of the American Academy for Jewish Research
PW-RE Pauly-Wissowa: Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertums-

wissenschaft

REJ Revue des Études Juives

SSz Soproni Szemle

TBM Tanulmányok Budapest Múltjából

ÚÉ Új Élet ÚI Új Idők

ZDMG Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft ZGJD Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland

ZNW Zeitschrift für Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft

ZSO Zsigmondkori Oklevéltár

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