

ADJCP Zychlin Projects

Zychlin Cemetery Clean-up

Zychlin's Jewish cemetery – what remains – is in a sorry state. The burial grounds were destroyed by the Nazis during the war, with gravestones demolished or used as construction materials. In the years since, several monuments have been erected to memorialize the Jews of Zychlin who are buried there as well as those who died in the Holocaust. While the cemetery is fenced, it is not maintained. Grass, weeds, and bushy undergrowth prevent entrance much of the time. The memorials have been tagged with graffiti.

ADJCP plans to partner with local organizations on clean-up of the cemetery, possibly in conjunction with our group's memorial trip. We also would like to arrange for ongoing maintenance of the cemetery and install a commemorative plaque at the cemetery entrance.



Zychlin cemetery monument made of gravestone fragments. Photo credit: Marysia Galbraith, <https://uncoveringjewishheritage.com/2014/11/02/zychlin-part-2/>

“In addition, ADJCP is working with the Society of Friends of the Kutno Region (TPZK) on the efforts to memorialize Zychlin's Jewish community. The Society organized the recent March 3 ceremony at the Zychlin cemetery commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Zychlin ghetto liquidation and has additional initiatives planned this year. Stay tuned for additional information about memorial projects”. (Lori Sandoval April 5, 2022)

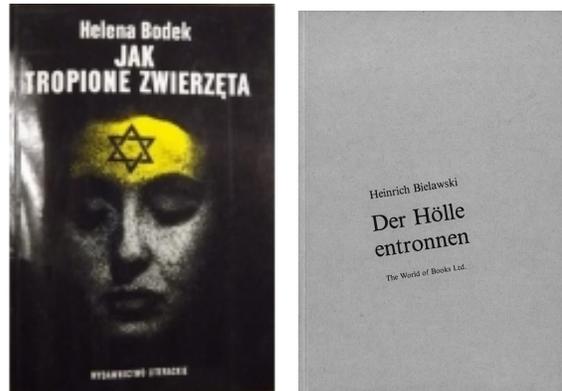
Book Translations

Translation of *Jak Tropione Zwierzeta (Hunted Like Animals)* by Zychliner Helena Bodek

Helena Bodek grew up in pre-war Zychlin. She shared her experiences of living through the Holocaust in a 1993 memoir, *Hunted Like Animals (Jak Tropione Zwierzeta)*. Published in Polish, the book documents what happened to Bodek during World War II, the outbreak of war in Zychlin, and the Jewish ghetto in nearby Kutno. Like the Zychlin Memorial Book, Bodek's work offers an inside perspective on what Zychlin's Jewish residents experienced and the destruction of their community at the hands of the Nazis.

ADJCP is working to translate *Jak Tropione Zwierzeta (Hunted Like Animals)* into English, so that the memoir will be more accessible to non-Polish readers.

(Note: Bodek, whose maiden name was Chaja/Halina Tzinamon, also authored several chapters of the Zychlin Yizkor book currently being translated.



Translation of *Der Hölle Entronnen (Escaped from Hell)*, by Another Zychliner Survivor, Heinrich Bielawski

Another memoir sharing a Zychliner's first-hand experience of World War II is Heinrich Bielawski's *Der Hölle Entronnen (Escaped from Hell)*, published in German in 1989. From the blurb introducing Bielawski's book:

Camp "Station", Leimnitz, Finkenherd, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Oranienburg, Sachsenhausen, Ohrdruf: this reads like any list of a number of labor and concentration camps. These are the stages in Heinrich Bielawski's ordeal, which began for him, the Polish Jew, after the outbreak of war. In fact, it seems almost unimaginable to us today what he - and countless others like him - has to go through: hunger, cold, mistreatment, humiliation, illnesses - dysentery, typhus, etc. - the murder of the family and all of his relatives - just one brother survived -, forced labor on construction sites, in the quarry and on the notorious ramp of Auschwitz, thoughts of suicide, but also hope that flickered again and again, finally the "death march".

(*Der Holle Entronnen*, Heinrich Bielawski, 1989)

ADJCP also plans to translate this important work, to share the memories of another Zychliner more broadly.