

The records of Moravia, Silesia and Bohemia - similarities and differences

1788-1949

INTENTION



decrees &
regulations

RECORDS



content &
structure

plus

historic and geographic background



AVAILABILITY today

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Short historic preview ~ DECREES

1734 a rescript on marriages (age of bride and groom)

1766 circumcision books

1783 birth records of girls

1784 Joseph II.'s decree on vital records

- preprinted format, records keepers, etc.

1874 a decree to keep the duplicates 

1949 the agenda transferred to the state

Historic preview and the records

Joseph II.

CSSR

1784

1938/1939

1949

1874

1938

1797

1838

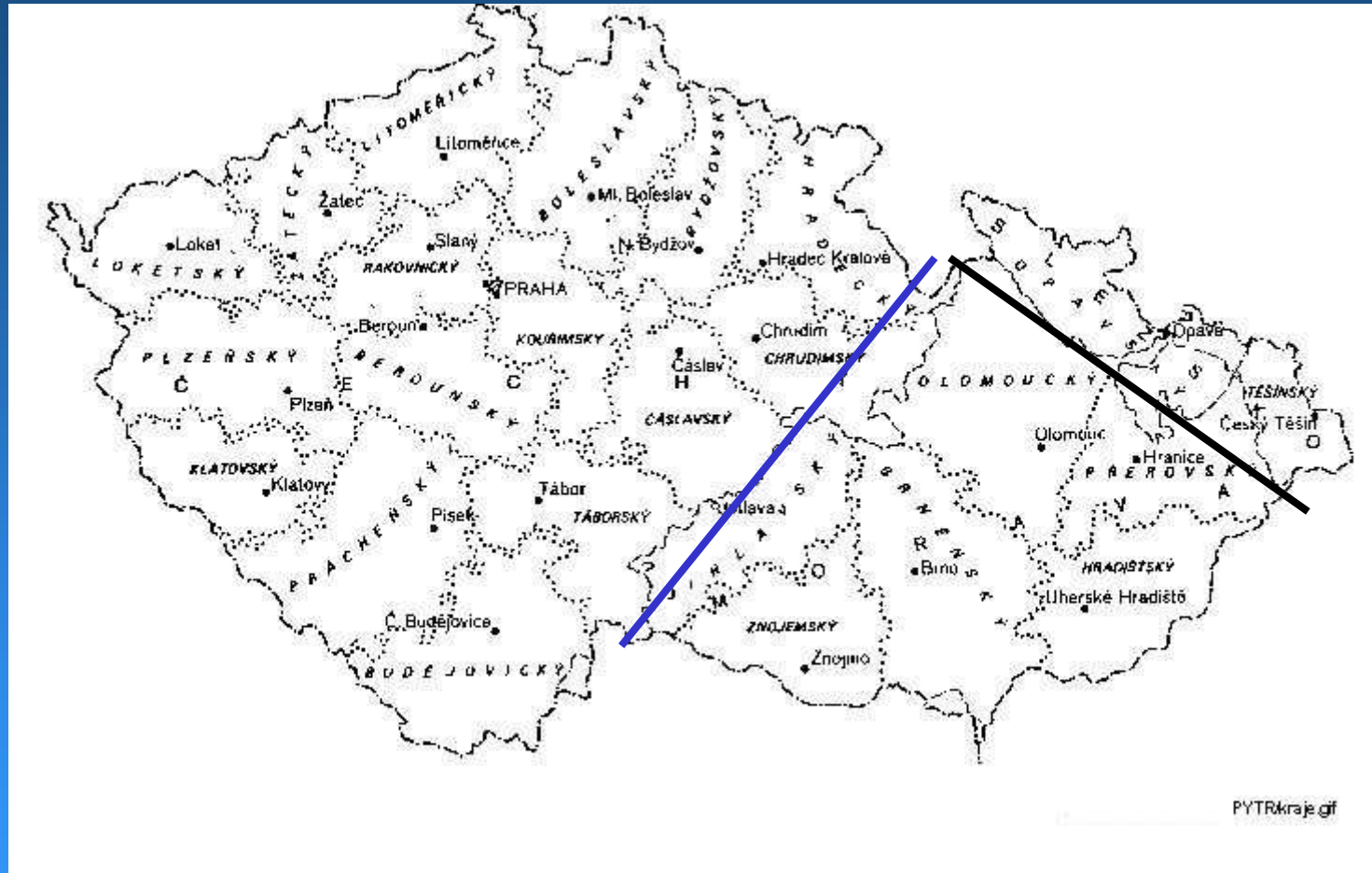
1868 (1890)

1797 Systemal Patent issued by Franz I.

1838 Decree enforcing the control duplicates led by nearby catholic church

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18./19. century - country administration



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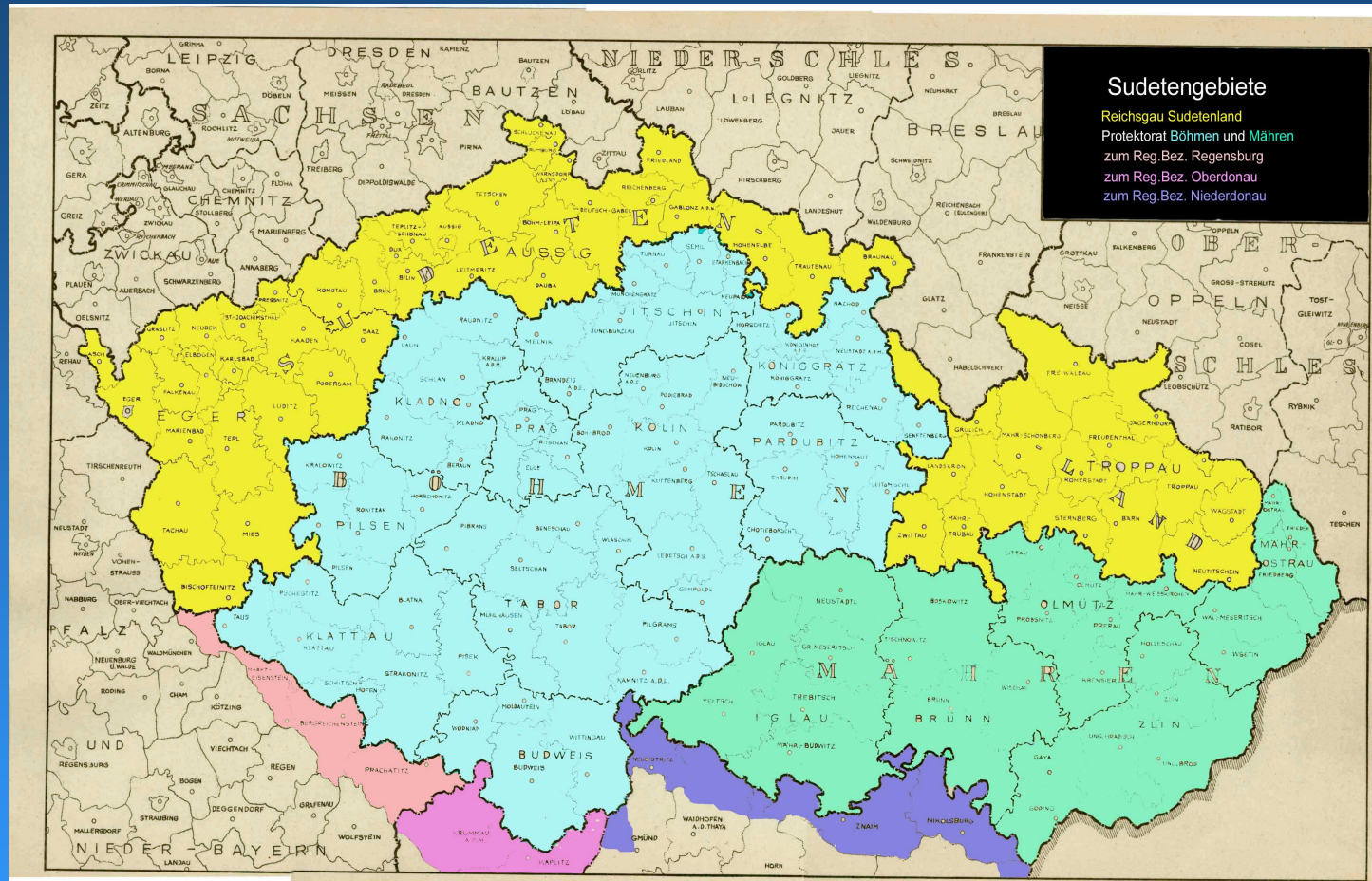
In Moravia, Jews were expelled from „royal“ town in abt.1440 (earlier than in Bohemia) and the families settled in small towns but did not scattered to small villages like in Bohemia. There were 52 rather large Jewish communities in Moravia. The restriction on number of families (5400) was lifted in 1849.

genealogy



In Silesia, there were not large communities until abt. 1860. Individual families were coming from Moravian communities (Singers from Ivančice to Těšín, many Jews from Jevičko to Osoblaha, etc.). The restriction on number of families (119) was lifted as early as in 1794.

As always - accesibilty is heavily influenced by historic events...

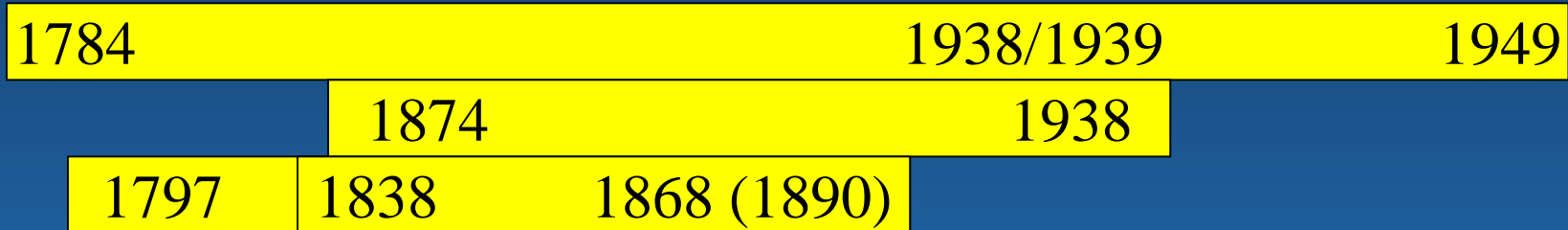


Sudetenland in 1939

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Three major sources of Jewish records today :

1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa a HBM
2. Jewish Museum Prague
3. Local state archives - network of regional a district archives



Today, many vital records from central Moravia and Silesia are missing, esp. those of period 1846-1873, 1874-1900.

1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa a HBM
= dupl. = cath.dupl.

Bohemia ~ abt. 770 places ~ today 2 030 duplicate books
(only 7 of 770 partly missing) plus 701 cath. dupl. books

Moravia ~ 52 communities (77 places) ~ 409 duplicate books
plus 43 cath. dupl. books

Silesia ~ 14 places ~ 47 duplicate books
(no historic communities) plus 4 cath.dupl. books

1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa / HBM
= dupl. = cath.dupl.

	towns/villages	HBMa	/	HBM
Bohemia	<u>770</u>	2 030	/	<u>701</u>
Moravia	<u>77</u>	409	/	<u>43</u>
Silesia	<u>14</u>	47	/	<u>4</u>



3. Local state archives www.cesarch.cz
Opava archive records : www.archives.cz

Some of catholic duplicates of Moravia and Silesia
are still in local parish collections in district archives.



1838-1863

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1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa a HBM

Central Moravia towns except Brno :

Boskovice, Hranice, Ivanovice, Holešov, Kojetin, Kroměříž,
Lipník, Loštice, Nový Jičín, Olomouc, Prostějov, Přerov,
Rousínov, Slavkov, Šumperk, Tovačov, Vyškov

1784-1848 1849-1873 1874-1900 1901-1949

61%

55%

22%

78%

1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa a HBM

South-East Moravia towns :

Buchlovice, Bzenec, Dambořice, Dolní Kounice, Hodonín,
Ivančice, Koryčany, Kostel, Kyjov, Lednice, Mikulov,
Miroslav, Strážnice, Uherský Brod, Valašské Meziříčí,
Veselí na Moravě, vsetín, Bučovice, Břeclav

1784-1848

1849-1873

1874-1900

1901-1949

70%

55%

40%

55%

1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa a HBM

South-West Moravia towns :

Batelov, Brtnice, Jihlava, Jemnice, Lömnice, Police, Polná,
Šafov, Telč, Třebíč, Třešť, Velké Meziříčí, Znojmo

1784-1848 1849-1873 1874-1900 1901-1949

62%

54%

31%

62%

2. Jewish Museum Prague www.jewishmuseum.cz

Collections of Jewish community incl. family history papers
- can substitute missing vital records :

Dambořice, Dolní Kounice, Ivančice, Jevíčko, Kojetín,
Kroměříž, Kyjov, Lomnice, Loštice, Mikulov, Opava,
Ostrava, Podivín, Pohořelice, Prostějov, Slavkov, Telč,
Třebíč, Třešť, Uherský Ostroh, Úsov, Znojmo.

Jews in Silesia - historic preview = Opava, Těšín, Krnov:

Jews were expelled from Opava (1535), Krnov (1535) and Hlubcice (1543). They could not settle but could come to markets, collect taxes and rent the distilleries (arendas).

In 1721/1722 the Jews lived in 3 places of Krnov estate and 17 places of Opava estate, 111 people altogether.

In 1723/1725, there were 40-50 families living at Těšín estate.

In 1752, there were 88 families in Těšín area, 23 families in Opava/Krno area, and 8 families in Vidnava.

13 Jewish communities in Silesia / records in Prague Natl. archive:

	HBMa	HBM
Bílovec	1	
Bruntál	1	1
Frydek	3	1
Frydlant		1
Jeseník	1	
Karviná	4	
Krnov	1	
Místek	7	
Opava	9	
Osoblaha	2	
(Ostrava)	14	
Těšín	1	
Vidnava	1	

1. Prague Natl. Archive - collections HBMa a HBM

Silesia towns :

Bílovec, Bruntál, Frýdek, Frýdlant, Jeseník, Karviná,
Krnov, Místek, Opava, Osoblaha, Ostrava, Těšín, Vidnava

1784-1848 1849-1873 1874-1900 1901-1949

38%

23%

31%

62%

Several databases online :

Jewish cemeteries - by Brno Jewish community www.zob.cz
Brno, Ivančice, Holešov, Miroslav,

- GenTeam.at

- Grave-pictures.at

and others ...

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Summary :

Many vital records of Moravia and Silesia are in Prague Natl. Archive. However, some period records are missing due to historic consequences (captured Sudetenland / destruction of records by the nazis in April 1945).

The catholic duplicates are often still in district archive, some of them are online (Opava regional archive).

The collections of Jewish museum archive in Prague can substitute missing vital records.

Silesia communities were mostly formed by Moravian Jews so their family history can be traced in „hometown“ Moravia records.

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