

# Synagogues and Cemeteries

*translated by JK,*

from website [http://www.diapozytow.pl/pl/site/slady\\_i\\_judaica/Kutno/synagogi\\_cmentarze](http://www.diapozytow.pl/pl/site/slady_i_judaica/Kutno/synagogi_cmentarze)

## **Cemeteries**

The creation date and the place of the first cemetery of Kutno are unknown. It must have been created at the beginning of the existence of the Jewish community in the town. The next Jewish cemetery was created in 1793, along Spokojna Street (now Tarnowskiego Street). The cemetery area was nearly three hectares. The last burial occurred in 1942.

The remains of the old fence and destroyed tombstone fragments ("matzevot"), which could be salvaged, were transferred to the Regional Museum of Kutno. A memorial dedicated to the Jews of Kutno was erected in the cemetery.

## **Synagogues**

Information on the wooden synagogues of Kutno is lacking, although they were certainly built when the Jewish community ("Kahal") of the town was created. However, the creation date of the Jewish community is uncertain.

In the eighteenth century, a brick synagogue was built in Senatorska Street. Because of financial problems, construction of the synagogue was stopped for nearly thirty years. The synagogue was built on a rectangular plan. The decorative facade was crowned by a late baroque, profiled apex, resting on two pairs of wooden columns, connected by a gabled roof. The same type of apex with half columns was present on the western facade. The northern and southern ends of the synagogue were surrounded by wooden annexes, much lower than the main building – these contained the women's section. The women's section was covered by a scalene roof. The synagogue's baroque prayer hall, with a nine section ceiling, was outfitted with monumental, centrally placed Bimah. Germans destroyed the synagogue in 1942.