The National Historical Archives of Belarus in the city of Grodno is one of the major archives of Belarus. The Archives is located in the center of the town, in a building that in itself is a historical piece of architecture built at the end of the eighteenth century. The archives keeps documents of regional, district and provincial authorities, economical, financial, educational, medical, philanthropic and other institutions and organizations of Grodno region for the period of early nineteenth-twentieth centuries. Some archival fonds, i.e., family fonds, contain documents from as early as the sixteenth-eighteenth centuries. Archival documents contain information regarding the history of Grodno region in its historical borders and also Vileyka, Disna, Lida and Oshmyany districts of Vileyka region of the Russian Empire.

Data in the archival documents reflect the opening and functioning of industrial enterprises, market conditions, transportation, specifics of land processing and agriculture, construction and repair of buildings and structures, purchase and sale of land, and cultural events.

A separate set of documents contains genealogical information. These documents are of great interest to people interested in their ancestry and, as a result, the archives are trying to help as much as possible.

Genealogical information is mostly contained in the fonds of local authorities, financial and tax institutions and some documents of religious institutions.

Archival documents contain specific information regarding the genealogy of the Jewish population of the region. You can particularly find such information in the fonds of Jewish institutions, metric record books of synagogues, census records, documents about the elections of rabbis and other files. We have to note here that documents of synagogues and Jewish institutions are not complete which sometimes is the reason for the lack of information for certain towns and regions. The same can be said regarding the fonds of religious institutions of other faiths.
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