

Otwork, located just south of Warsaw, is mentioned in fifteenth-century sources, but a Jewish community there dates only from the late nineteenth century. When a Hasidic dynasty established itself in the town, a Jewish community formed around the rebbe's residence and study house, built in the middle of the surrounding forest. In 1893, Dr. J. Geisler opened a sanatorium for people suffering from tuberculosis, and Otwork soon developed into a fashionable health resort attracting particularly middle-class Jews from Warsaw and central Poland.

In the fall of 1940, the Germans imposed a ghetto in Otwork, through which passed more than 12,000 Jews from Otwork and the surrounding area. Some 2,000 Jews died of hunger and typhus, and another 2,000 were shot during the ghetto's liquidation in August 1942. The remaining Jews were deported to Treblinka. About 400 Jews settled in Otwork after the war; a home for Jewish children and a Jewish sanatorium functioned for several years.

Location

27 km ESE of Warsaw
 52°07' / 21°15'
 Voivodship: Warsaw

General Population, 1939

30,000 (45% Jewish)

General Population, 1994

43,719

OTVOSK, OTVOTSK, USHVOTSK, OSHVOTSK



SYNAGOGUES

All five synagogues burned in October 1939.

ul. Górna 6
 Bet Midrash Reindorf (Mikvah was next door).

ul. Warszawska 41
 Bet ha-Keneset Goldberg

ul. Kupiecka (formerly Aleksandrova)
 Bet Midrash Blas.

ul. Reymonta and Zeromskiego
 Bet ha-Keneset Weinberg.

ul. Zeromskiego (continuation of ul. Warszawska)
 Bet ha-Keneset Jablonski.

DEPORTATIONS

Tyszowce, Treblinka.



1 | ul. Kościelna, 1929



1 | Former synagogue, Bet Midrash Reindorf, ul. Górna 6

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■ Jewish cemetery in Anielin (includes Otwock burials), 1995 3

JEWISH CEMETERIES

In nearby village of Anielin
 The cemetery was established in the nineteenth century.
 Remaining tombstones: 200, dating from 1915.
 ul. Szkolna (in nearby Karczew)
 Remaining tombstones: 50, dating from 1876.



■ Jewish cemetery in Karczew (includes Otwock burials), 1996 4

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Monument at ul. Reymonta, where more than 6,000 Jews in the Otwock ghetto were shot between August 19 and 30, 1942.



■ Holocaust memorial, ul. Reymonta, 1995 5

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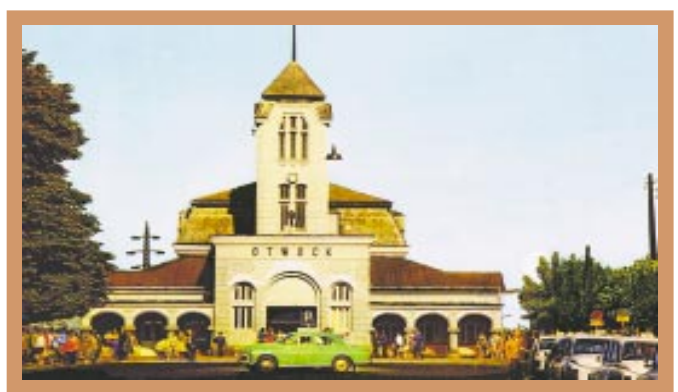
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■ Sanatorium (resort), c. 1990 6

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■ Train station, c. 1985 7

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