

The Jewish Cemetery of Correggio

The present Jewish cemetery of Correggio is the third Jewish cemetery established in town. The first one has been existing since 1459 and his exact location is still unknown. Nevertheless, it was certainly located within the walls of the town. A second cemetery became operable since the seventeenth century; it was located behind the fourteenth-century Rocca Nuova (also called Rocchetta).

Operable until the late 1850s – even if since 1787 some areas had already been alienated – the so-called *Ortazzo degli ebrei* (Jewish vegetable garden) was dismantled right after the Unification of Italy and started to be defined ‘ex-Jewish cemetery’ since June 1869.

In 1781 the governor of Correggio ordered to move all the cemeteries out of the urban area and the Jewish community had to find a new place. They chose a small plot of land near the old mill that belonged to the Da Correggio family, that was probably a burial ground already.

At the end of 1808 the cemetery was enlarged, and on the 9th of December of the same year an eleven months-old baby from the Vienna family was buried there. In 1811 the Jewish University built the new surrounding walls. Since that time the cemetery remained operable without interruptions.

Accessible from a small building, nowadays the burial ground is 1150 square meters wide and it houses around 70 tombs. The tombs are arranged in two areas, divided by a boss walk. The most recent tomb is Dante Filzi’s one, that dates back to 1958.

The inscriptions on the gravestones were written in Jewish script until year 1873/1784, while the most recent ones were written in Italian.

The Jewish cemetery (Viale della Repubblica, 8) is open both on weekdays and during the weekend. Advance reservation is required, at least two days before your visit.

Special opening on the *International Holocaust Remembrance Day* – on the 27th of January or on the nearest Sunday, in case it falls on Saturday – and on the *European Day of Jewish Culture* (first Sunday of September).

Saturday closed – from half an hour before sunset on Friday until one hour after sunset on Saturday – and during the Jewish festivals.

Information and reservations:
Informaturismo, tel. 0522 631770

Translated by: Francesca Chiussi