



Weg der Erinnerung durch die Leopoldstadt

12. Teil

*Eine Initiative des Vereins
Steine der Erinnerung*

Weg der Erinnerung durch die Leopoldstadt

Erinnerung an
das jüdische Leben
Gedenken an
die jüdischen EinwohnerInnen

Zwölfter Teil

Verein Steine der Erinnerung
www.steinedererinnerung.net

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Die Leopoldstadt war traditionell ein Bezirk, in dem viele jüdische WienerInnen lebten. Vor der Machtergreifung durch die Nazis lag der jüdische Bevölkerungsanteil bei fünfundvierzig Prozent. 1938 wurden diese Menschen über Nacht ihrer Rechte, ihrer Würde und ihrer Habe beraubt. Viele jüdische Männer, Frauen und Kinder, auch aus anderen Bezirken Wiens, aus Niederösterreich und dem Burgenland wurden gezwungen, hier in eine der vielen „Sammelwohnungen“ zu ziehen. Die Menschen, die nicht flüchten konnten, wurden deportiert und ermordet.

Der „Weg der Erinnerung“ führt zu vielen für das frühere jüdische Leben in der Leopoldstadt bedeutsamen Orten und er macht die Geschichte der Vertreibung und Ermordung der jüdischen Bevölkerung sichtbar. Er berührt den Alltag des jüdischen Lebens und gedenkt bei-

spielhaft der vielen Menschen, die hier gelebt haben. Seit dem Beginn unseres Projekts im Jahre 2005 hat sich der 2. Bezirk verändert. Die jüdische Geschichte der Leopoldstadt ist mit Steinen der Erinnerung an über 200 Plätzen sichtbar geworden. Das hätten wir vor dreizehn Jahren nicht zu träumen gewagt.

Auch in diesem Jahr ist es für viele der Angehörigen wichtig, ihre Vorfahren durch Steine der Erinnerung zu würdigen und ihnen einen symbolischen Grabstein zu setzen. Fast alle haben einen Beitrag für diese Broschüre geschrieben. Wir können auf viele Fotos und Lebensgeschichten zurückgreifen, die darin enthalten sind. Dass wir ihnen, deren Familien ungeheures Leid zugefügt wurde, nun ein anderes Wien zeigen können, ist für uns von größter Bedeutung.

Der Verein „Steine der Erinnerung“ dankt allen Menschen und

Institutionen, die unser Projekt unterstützen. Ohne sie wäre der „Weg der Erinnerung“ nicht zustande gekommen. Sie alle werden auf unserer Homepage namentlich erwähnt.

Ein besonderer Dank gilt Peter Mlczoch von der Gebietsbetreuung*2/20, der unsere Arbeit von Beginn an mitgestaltet und unterstützt, sowie Rudolf Forster, der das ehrenamtliche Lektorat für diese Broschüre übernommen hat. Albena Zlatanova vom Nationalfonds danken wir für die ausgiebigen Recherchen, ohne die unsere Arbeit nicht möglich gewesen wäre und Jarmila Böhm für das umsichtige Layout. Allen WegbegleiterInnen, die ehrenamtlich und mit viel Engagement verschiedenste Aufgaben übernommen haben – z.B. die wöchentliche Wartung der Stationen – ein großes Dankeschön. Unserem Ziel, den öffentlichen Raum so zu verändern, dass ein

Stück Wiener Vergangenheit reflektiert und bewältigt wird, kommen wir Schritt für Schritt näher. Unser Wunsch ist es, durch unsere Beispiele die Erinnerung an das jüdische Leben in der Leopoldstadt wach zu halten und symbolisch den von hier vertriebenen und ermordeten jüdischen EinwohnerInnen wieder einen Platz in ihrem Heimatbezirk zu geben. Auf diese Weise hoffen wir, zur Heilung dieser tiefen Wunde beizutragen.

Daliah Hindler
Matthias Beier
Vally Steiner
Ernst Fitzka
Roswitha Hammer
Raul Soto
Zahava Hindler
Elisabeth Ben David-Hindler, verstorben
Karl Jindrich, verstorben
Verein Steine der Erinnerung an jüdische Opfer des Holocausts

Station 11b Schiffamtsgasse 10

Heinrich Antscherl: There on a stone a while to linger

Heinrich Antscherl was born in 1886 in Schiffamtsgasse, on the banks of the Danube Channel. His two grandfathers were Rabbi Asher Adam Antscherl from Batelov and Rabbi Joseph Weisse, a *maskil* [Supporter of the Haskalah movement, the Jewish variation of the general Enlightenment] from Prossnitz. Heinrich himself followed the providence of music and became a talented violinist at a very young age, as virtuoso soloists do.

He was probably enlightened by the Zeitgeist and the cultural blossoming of the Jewish emancipation, but his origins probably had a first influence on his passion for music. His father came from Batelov, a little town nearby Jihlava and not far from Vienna. The Jewish congregation was known throughout the province for its High Holiday religious songs melting spirituality with local musical talent.

ELSA ANTSCHERL GEB. SAGEL 26.3.1887 IN ŠAFOV AM 26.1.1942 NACH RIGA DEPORTIERT	PROF. HEINRICH ANTSCHERL 17.7.1886 IN WIEN AM 26.1.1942 NACH RIGA DEPORTIERT STILLE IST MUSIK
ELISE ANTSCHERL 8.12.1889 IN WIEN AM 26.1.1942 NACH RIGA DEPORTIERT	DOROTHEA ANTSCHERL 5.12.1892 AM 26.1.1942 NACH RIGA DEPORTIERT



Heinrich Antscherl – 1890

Poster in front of the Burgtheater (Emilie Mayer)



In July of 1911 Heinrich Antscherl married Elsa Sagel from Safov, a Czech/Austrian border town in the Moravian region. We know very little about Elsa, and we wish with all of our hearts that we had more stories to tell about her. Their son Bernhard (“Bernnie”) was born in 1912, one year after the wedding and shortly before the Great War broke out. Heinrich was recruited by the Central Powers to fight the Allies. He was decorated for fighting in the trenches, but his left-hand fingers lost their speed. After this, he went on to become a *Musikpädagoge* to the children of the district and was part of the faculty rosters at the Vienna Conservatory of Music. He performed occasionally in places such as the ceremony hall of the Hofburg Palace and the Bayeri-

scher Hof. Pedestrians could see the concerts advertised in posters all along the Ring road and journals such as *Die Wahrheit*. The twenties were calm. “*Kommt Elul beginnt die Schul!*”. School always starts in the month of Elul, as his older brother Gotthold used to say to his pupils at the Schubert school in Rembrandtstraße. Life was predictable in Leopoldstadt, going round and round like the Jewish calendar. In 1934 Heinrich and Elsa became grandparents with the birth of two cute twins George and Eva. But then the weight of History and WWII burst into Schiffamtsgasse 10 and never left. After the annexation of Austria to Nazi Germany, Schiffamtsgasse 10 was transformed into an overcrowded tenement building under very precarious circumstances. Heinrich and Elsa wanted to join their son who lived in Brussels (348 rue de Mérode), but their visas were denied time and again. On July 21st of 1939, they finally crossed the border but were arrested in Amblève by the Belgian border guard. They were sent back to Austria.

*Henrich and Elsa Antscherl
(VISA request portrait,
4th of Mai 1939)*



On the 10th May of 1940, Bernhard was deported to the Saint-Cyprien internment camp in the Eastern Pyrenees region of France. He escaped but stayed hidden during the occupation period. He could not do anything else for his parents.

On January 26th of 1942, they were deported to the Riga Ghetto along with Heinrich's sisters Elise and Dorothea. The transport consisted of 1,200 Jewish deportees. Only 36 of them survived.

The Germans killed upward of 50,000 men, women and children in Riga during the war. Bernhard never saw his parents again and did not like to talk to us about Vienna or his parents' tribulations. Only when the Vienna Philharmonic New Year's Concert was broadcasted on TV,

he used to lament not to have a place to honor them.

"Stille ist Musik". In music, the silence is a pause. The memory was alive for all of us, waiting in silence.

From now, this place will exist somehow. In front of the apartment Heinrich and Elsa left so hastily there will be a memorial plaque to honor them. It will be preserved as a part of the urban heritage and will be offered as a sense of place to Kristabelle, Maximilien, Olivier, Dylan, Myles, Claire, Mila, Isaac and future generations.

Text written by the great-grandchildren Débora Antscherl (daughter of Michel) and Daniel Wagensberg (son of Nora), and supported by Mark Antscherl (son of George and nephew of Eva).

Station 11n

Herminengasse 6

ZUM GEDENKEN AN 145 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN, MÄNNER
UND KINDER, DIE HIER BEENGTE IN
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN LEBTEN, EHE DIE NAZIS SIE
DEPORTIERTEN. NUR ZEHN VON IHNEN HABEN
ÜBERLEBT.

STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN

<p>FRANZISKA STERN GEB. URICH 12.4.1883 AM 14.6.1942 NACH SOBIBOR DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>	<p>LEOPOLD STERN 10.1.1874 AM 14.6.1942 NACH SOBIBOR DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>	<p>EMIL URICH 1.7.1867 AM 26.9.1942 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>
<p>IRMA ZAIMMANN GEB. GOLDNER 28.7.1897 AM 28.10.1941 NACH LODZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>	<p>ALEXANDER ZAIMMANN 5.4.1890 1938 FLUCHT NACH RUMÄNIEN AM 28.2.1939 IN KISHINEV ERMORDET</p>	<p>CHARLOTTE ZAIMMANN 11.5.1935 AM 28.10.1941 NACH LODZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>

Leopold Stern, Franziska Stern, and Emil Urich

Leopold (Yosef Yehudah) Stern, a lawyer by training, worked as deputy secretary and legal con-

sultant (*Sekretärstellvertreter und Rechtskonsulent*) to the administrative council of the Jewish community, the *Israelitische Kulturgemeinde Wien*, and originally lived at Große Pfarrgasse 6 in

the 2nd District with his first wife Elsa (née Heller) and son Kurt (Aryeh), who was born in 1909. In 1913, Elsa died unexpectedly in childbirth. Leopold did not feel himself capable of raising his young son alone, and he agreed to allow Kurt to be raised by the child's maternal grandparents, Josef and Helene Heller, in Brno, Czechoslovakia, where his grandfather was Oberkantor in the town's main synagogue. Kurt grew up in Brno and remained there until graduating gymnasium. During that period, Leopold lived in Vienna in an apartment with his own widowed mother and unmarried sister Fanny. Those must have been lonely years for Leopold.

In 1922, Leopold married Franziska Urich, originally from Lemberg (Lvov), and the couple moved to Maysedergasse 5 in the 1st District, near the lady's boutique shop Franziska managed. In 1928, after his grandmother's death in Brno, Kurt and his grandfather, Cantor Heller, moved back to Vienna where they lived with Leopold and Franziska in the Maysedergasse



Leopold Stern

apartment. Kurt attended medical school at the University of Vienna, and together with his mentor, K. Wilhelm, authored the first textbook on cancer research at the Cancer Research Institute in Vienna. Following the Anschluss in 1938, however, Kurt Stern found himself suddenly unemployed and decided to emigrate to the United States. That same year, Leopold, Franziska, and Franziska's brother Emil Urich were re-located to communal apartments in Leopoldstadt, the last of which was at this address, 2, Herminengasse 6. In 1942, Leo-

pold and Franziska were deported to Izbica, and Emil to Theresienstadt. Leopold and Franziska were murdered in Sobibor, Emil Urich in Treblinka.

Our father, Kurt Aryeh Stern, did not speak much about his father or stepmother. This is probably because the formative years of his childhood and adolescence were spent with his grandparents in Brno, not with his father in Vienna. Despite his reticence towards his father, the records and documents Kurt obtained after the war testify to the meticulousness and thoughtfulness of Leopold's personality. An official form Leopold filled out for the Nazi authorities listing, in his careful and deliberate handwriting, each and every one of his personal possessions (only to have the Nazi regime "aryanize" them through purchase at a fragment of their value by the Dorotheum), tragically documents his naïve faith and dutiful citizenship. On the other hand, letters and postcards that, in the final years before their deportation, Leopold and Franziska sent to Kurt and his newly-wed wife,



Franziska

Florence, in America, attest to the full and hopeless awareness they had of their own precarious situation (and that of so many other Jews).

As we establish this plaque in their memory, we are painfully reminded of how little we actually know about our grandfather and step-grandmother (and even less about their families). We can only regret now that we cannot ask our father more questions about them. Much of what we have written here is known to us only because of



Leopold and Franziska

the painstaking efforts of Hillel Shalev, one of Leopold's many great-grandchildren, to reconstruct the family history.

Even so, let this plaque we are establishing now in their memory show that, however impossible it may be to learn more personal facts and biographical details, it is never too late to remember

and to remind others of the lives of Leopold and Franziska Stern and Emil Urich, of their presence in this city at a time not so long ago, and of the unconscionable fate they met here.

Bracha (Stern) Slae, Josef (Yosef Yehuda) Stern, David Stern, Hillel Shalev (Slae)

Alexander Zaidmann, Irma Zaidmann, Charlotte Zaidman

My cherished parents, Martha and Siegfried Bohensky, are both holocaust survivors from Austria. During a trip to Austria in September 2016, to explore my roots, I discovered and learned about the Stones of Remembrance.

My mother Martha Zaidmann and her family are originally from Deutschkreutz in Burgenland. There were 6 people in her immediate family; mother Irma, father Alexander, brothers Leo and Norbert, Martha, and little sister Charlotte. They were forced to leave Deutschkreutz and move to Vienna. Through Yad Vashem's data base I discovered that they were forced to move here: Wien 2, Herminengasse 6/20.

Our family is not sure of the circumstances of my grandfather's, Alexander Zaidmann's death. We know he went back to Kishinev, Romania where he was born. We don't know why. My mother's brother Norbert told her that Alexander, her father, was shot in the street and died February 28, 1939. We don't know any other



Alexander Zaidmann



Irma Zaidmann



The photo is in Deutschkreutz. From left to right are Alexander (father), Leo, Norbert, Irma (mother), and Martha. Charlotte was not born yet.

details and Norbert has since passed away.

Irma, my grandmother, and little Charlotte were deported to Lodz Ghetto in Poland on October 10, 1941. Charlotte was only 6 years old. We know Irma and Charlotte were murdered in Chelmno extermination camp.

Mercifully my mother and her two brothers survived.

Leo, her oldest brother, escaped to Shanghai, China. He eventually got to Palestine and lived his



Charlotte Zaidmann

life in Israel. He married his wife Hinda and had 3 children. His

son Shlomo and daughter Ilana still live in Israel and his oldest son, Natan, lives in New York.

Norbert at age 17 was first sent to a “re-education camp” which in reality was a labor camp. In 1940 he reached Palestine on an illegal transport. The British would not let the refugees off the ship and sent them to Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. While in the refugee camp in Mauritius, Norbert met his future wife Mary. Eventually he made it to Palestine and lived his life in Haifa, Israel. Norbert had a son Danny who lives in New York with his family.

My mother Martha was lucky to be able to escape via the Kindertransport to the United Kingdom. She was 14 years old. Martha lived in Gwrych Castle, a refugee camp for Jewish children in Abergele Wales, United Kingdom.

In England Martha eventually reconnected with my father Siegfried, whom she knew from Vienna. Siegfried’s family was also forced to move into an apartment in the same neighborhood, 1020 Wien, Große Schiffgasse 17.



Norbert (left) and Leo (right) 1945 in Haifa



The three surviving Zaidman children. Norbert left, Martha, and Leo right. Approximately 1950 in Haifa, Israel.

My father, Siegfried Bohensky, was regrettably the only survivor of his immediate family of 4. His mother Cilli, father Samuel and sister Anna were all murdered. My brother Alexander, (named for my maternal grandfather) and I, Celia, (named for my pater-



My parents Martha Zaidman and Siegfried Bohensky in London, 1946.

nal grandmother), were born in London. Our family immigrated to New York in 1956.

Very sadly my darling mother Martha passed away at 84 years old in September of 2009. My brother Alex and I were lucky to have my father until he was 92. He passed away in December of 2016, shortly after I returned from Austria. I told him of my discovery of these Stones of Remembrance.

Our murdered grandparents and family members suffered un-

speakable tragedy and horrors. Their surviving children carried the grief of that loss their entire lives.

Leo, Norbert, and Martha had 6 children among them. Those 6 grandchildren of Irma and Alexander Zaidmann had 11 children among them, (great-grandchildren for Irma and Alexander). And now of course there are great-great-grandchildren.

It is extraordinary to be able to honor and memorialize these family members with the Stones of Remembrance.

Forever In Our Hearts.

The Zaidmann Grandchildren

Celia Wortman, California USA

Alexander Bohensky, New Jersey, USA

Danny Zivan, New York, USA

Natan Zaidman, New York, USA

Shlomo Zaidman, Haifa, Israel

Ilana Zaidman, Haifa Israel

May 27, 2018

Station 15c

Schiffamtsgasse 18

Mordechai Zwi Mandelbaum
Rosa Mandelbaum
Gitta Mandelbaum

Der Stein für **Sali Fallenberg** wurde vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

My Perspective of the Holocaust by Rudolf Mandelbaum (1925–2005)

Lecture given on Yom Hashoah, 28th April 2001, at his synagogue, the Young Israel Shul in Netanya

I would first like to thank the honorary officers for asking me to speak this evening.

Let me begin by telling you about myself – I was born in Budapest in 1925 and named Rudolf Mandelbaum by my parents who were then living in Vienna. My mother had gone to her parents to have the birth there.

I have an older brother, who now lives in New York, and had a younger sister. As many Holocaust survivors and their children, I was reluctant to talk

MORDECHAI ZWI MANDELBAUM 12.1.1893 AM 28.9.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	ROSA MANDELBAUM GEB. KOHN 23.5.1899 AM 4.10.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
GITTA MANDELBAUM 1.6.1933 AM 4.10.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	SALI FALLENBERG 27.4.1878 AM 15.5.1942 VON LODZ NACH CHELMNO DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET

about my past and the times we went through, until my children visited Theresienstadt and Auschwitz about eight years ago. They persuaded me that it was my duty to inform them and their children of my memories and experiences under Hitler and the Nazi regime and, since then, I have talked freely to them and to anyone else.

My late father z.l. Mordechai Zwi, who was Polish by birth, was employed by the Jewish community of Vienna as a chazan and in the Chevra Kadisha. This latter job prolonged his life, as he was responsible for Tahara and burials in the community.

At the age of five, I was sent to the local Talmud Torah school where I received half-day Lim-mudei Kodesh and half-day secular education. We were living in a totally Jewish area like a ghetto, but still experienced name-calling and other insults from the population. I was also a member of the Agudas Yisroel youth movement, which was instrumental in enabling me subsequently to go to England on the Kindertransport – one of the children of Rabbi Dr. Solomon Schonfeld's z.l.

Just the day before my Bar Mitzvah in the middle of March 1938, the Nazi Anschluss entered Austria and Vienna. On that Friday and the following Shabbat morning, any Jew on the street who was caught by the SS and SA was made to scrub the pavement and beaten with their rubber truncheons in order to degrade them. Already on the very first day the swastika flags were displayed on all the buildings and windows. Consequently, there was great fear to attend shul that Shabbat morning. However, by Mincha time we managed to persuade a few neighbors to

go a couple of doors down the street to a little shtiebel, where I was given my aliyah. Naturally, the planned kiddush did not take place for me.

After that, anti-Semitism was openly practiced and we were often surrounded by groups of people and beaten. On one occasion when I went to complain at the police station about the beatings of my father, I was told to be grateful that he had not been killed! My mother very seldom left the house thereafter. We were unable to go to the market for fish and vegetables, so often had to make do with just a tin of sardines or herring. For Shabbat, there was still challah in the house as my mother, ע"ה, always used to bake her own, and wine was made by my parents from sultanas – rozinkerwein.

My older brother Shalom fortunately had left Vienna before the Anschluss to go to a yeshiva in Poland, where my paternal grandmother lived.

Things worsened daily – all shechita was banned, but my father had his other occupation which sadly kept him very busy.

Many Jewish families were able to get visas to the USA and England, provided that they had a guarantor and that the quota for the relevant country had not been used up. Unfortunately, we did not fit into these categories prior to the outbreak of the war. However, as my father was Polish born, he was obliged to wait his turn and was assured that no harm would befall him.

The event that had the biggest impact on my future life was "Kristallnacht" – [the pogrom of] November 10, 1938 [night from Nov 9 to 10]. My father had been pre-warned by some gravediggers not to return home that evening and he heeded their advice. I remember the Nazis going door to door to the Jewish apartments, which had been indicated to them by the buildings' caretakers. There was a loud knocking, followed immediately by the use of a big sledgehammer to break down the front door. They were looking for any Jewish men to take away to an army barracks. When they could not find my father, they beat my mother and kept demanding to

know where he was. She replied that she didn't know, as he had not returned from his work.

Over the following days, those people who could prove that they had papers to emigrate to other countries were freed. Other men were sent to the notorious Dachau and Buchenwald camps. These two names have been ingrained in my brain and cannot be erased from my mind. One reason for this was the fact that initially relatives often came to our home with an urn of ashes, which they had received. They would ask my father to see to the burial of them – we knew that the journey to these two places was a one-way trip only. As a lot of my friends at the Agudas Yisroel were leaving Vienna by means of Rabbi Schonfeld's efforts, I made the decision that it was time for me to go too. I discussed this with my parents, who gave me their blessing. I also wanted to take my six-year-old sister with me, but my mother was reluctant to add to my responsibilities and was concerned that I would have enough liability to take care for myself. Although only thirteen

at the time, I personally had to go for my passport, queuing all night, and had to ensure that it contained the requisite red “J”, standing for Jude, prominently displayed.

The name of Rabbi Schonfeld is no stranger to most people, and his work has been featured in recent articles in the shul magazine. I can testify to the truth of every word that has appeared. In obtaining entry permits for the Kindertransport children, he had to provide guarantors who deposited a sum of 50 pounds for each child – a very large amount of money in those days. He used to receive permits for only 100 children a time, but always took an extra 30. He disguised the number of children by splitting them into groups in different coaches of the train and would tell the children to move from one coach to another when the passports were being inspected. This all involved a tremendous effort on his part, as has been described in detail. I, luckily, did not have to wait too long as I was one of the 30 extra children. In order not to upset the British au-

thorities, we were left in a transit camp at the Hook of Holland for about two weeks until we could be absorbed into the next batch of children, and we were then replaced by another 30 children who were awaiting their entry into England.

The parting from my parents and sister was a very painful experience for all of us. On arrival in England, I was sent from hostel to hostel and given just under a year of schooling. At the outbreak of the Second World War, I was evacuated with the Jewish Free School to the Isle of Ely, near Cambridge and had to commence work before the age of 15.

I had postal contact with my parents for about six months and thereafter just one or two cards via the Red Cross. One of these told them of my engagement to Ray at the age of 18, which they acknowledged with joy.

Subsequently, I found out what happened to the rest of my family. My parents and sister remained in their home in Vienna until October 1942 and were then sent to Theresienstadt. On

Motzei Yom Kippur 1944, my father was taken straight from the “omud” to be sent to Auschwitz. He was killed in the gas chambers three days later at the age of 51. My mother and sister were taken exactly one week later also to Auschwitz where they perished, aged 45 and 11 respectively. I can assure you that those dates are absolutely correct, as the German kept meticulous records of all names and numbers. At the beginning of the war, my older brother, Shalom Mandelbaum, made his way from Poland to Hungary disguised as a non-Jew. When Hungary was invaded by the Germans, he tried to escape to Austria but was caught without documents and was taken to a camp. He survived the rest of the war and was liberated by the Americans. After the liberation, while still in the DP (displaced persons) Camp Foehrenwald, he and his wife were married by the late Klusenberger Rebbe, Rabbi Halberstam זצ”ל. They and part of their family now live in New York and the rest live here in Israel.

I am deeply conscious of two things today and every day. Thanks to Hashem and to Rabbi Schonfeld, I am here today – a living witness that, despite all their evil designs, the Germans did not win – the Jewish people continue to exist and flourish. I’m also driven by the need to keep the story of the Holocaust alive in the minds of all peoples throughout the world. This has been the main motivation for telling you my story tonight.

Glossary

Aliyah (in this context): Being called to the Torah to chant the blessings before and after the Torah reading

Challah: Special bread in Jewish cuisine, usually braided and typically eaten on ceremonial occasions such as Sabbath and major Jewish holidays

Chazan: Jewish musician or precentor trained in the vocal arts who helps lead the congregation in songful prayer

Chevra Kadisha: Organization of Jewish men and women who see to it that the bodies of deceased Jews are prepared for burial according to Jewish tradition

Kiddush (in this context): Traditional meal following Jewish Bar and Bat Mitzvah services

Limmudei Kodesh: Torah study

Mincha: Afternoon prayer service

Motzei Yom Kippur: The time in the evening immediately following Yom Kippur

Omud: Prayer lectern

Shechita: The slaughtering of certain mammals and birds for food according to Kashrut (Jewish religious dietary laws)

Shtiebel: Place used for communal Jewish prayer

Tahara: Titual purification

Yeshiva: Jewish institution that focuses on the study of traditional religious texts

Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement, the holiest day of the year in Judaism



Mordechai Zwi Mandelbaum

The Fate of the Mandelbaum Family during the Nazi-Reign

by Motti Mandelbaum (Vienna) [Nephew of Rudolf Mandelbaum]

My paternal grandparents, Mordechai Zvi (Markus) Mandelbaum and Rosa (pronounced: Roy-zeh) Mandelbaum (maiden name: Kohn) from Schiffamts-gasse 18/5, Vienna were religious Jews who moved to Vienna from Budapest.

Grandfather Mordechai Zvi was born on January 12, 1893 in Kshanov, Poland. Grandmother Rosa was born on May 23, 1899 in Czorna, Hungary.

The couple had three children. My father Shalom (Simon), born on September 9, 1922 was the firstborn. Another son, my uncle Ralph (Hebrew name: Levi Itzhak) [called "Rudolf" in the other texts] was born on March 20, 1925. The third child was a daughter named Gitta (Gittel), born in Vienna on June 1, 1933. Although my grandparents lived in Vienna from approximately 1920/1921 my grandmother gave birth to her first two children in Budapest to be helped by the proximity to her parents – particularly her mother – who lived in Budapest. My grandparents stayed in Budapest for only a very short time after the birth of each son and so basically resided consistently in Vienna until the Nazis put them on one of their infamous transports to Theresienstadt on October 1, 1942, transport number 43 which arrived in Theresienstadt on October 2, 1942. The transport number in Theresienstadt



Rosa Kohn as a girl

was IV/12. My grandfather's number on the transport was 356, my grandmother's 357 and Gitta's 358.

Gitta, just like her parents (my grandparents) did not survive the Holocaust as she too was taken with the October 1, 1942 transport number 43 to Theresienstadt. Uncle Ralph survived the Holocaust by going with the Kindertransport to the Isle of Hoek, Netherlands on his way to safety in London, England. When I visited uncle Ralph in Netanya, Israel, he related to me how when he was scheduled to leave Vienna with a Kindertrans-



*Rosa with Ralph and Gitta
ca. 1934*



Shalom Mandelbaum

port, he suggested to his parents that he take his young sister, the 5-year-old Gittel, along with him to safety in London. Our grandmother Rosa was of course too terrified to let go of her youngest child and only daughter so Gittel tragically made her way with my grandparents to Theresienstadt and later to their final destination: Auschwitz.

Like many Jews at the time, my grandfather, Mordechai Zvi (Markus) Mandelbaum, was a businessman in Vienna, active in the textile field. He was also very active in the Vienna Chevra Kadisha (Jewish burial society). As related by my father and uncle, he was a man of charity and although not rich by any standard, would prepare packages of his homemade grape juice, wine, fish, challot and other traditional Sabbath food for Vienna's poor Jews and anonymously leave them at the residences of poor people on Friday afternoon so that they would have enough food for the Sabbath. My grandparents z.l. always had an open door and a welcoming home, for Shabbat and the whole week, for those in need of shelter and a

warm meal. After the Anschluss, at great risk to themselves, they provided refuge and shelter to distant relatives seeking refuge from the Nazi onslaught.

My father, Shalom Mandelbaum z.l., never saw his parents or sister again after the age of 15. Somehow, he survived the Holocaust, mostly by managing to stay a step or two ahead of the Nazis until his capture in 1944. He would often move around disguised as a non-Jew, but still always managed to keep kosher and maintain his faith and religious upbringing. After years of being on the run avoiding Nazi capture, in the end my dad was caught somewhere in Slovakia. He was given the option of being sent to a concentration camp or of neutralizing bombs for the German army, the Wehrmacht. There was a need for this as in June 1944, the city of Bratislava was bombed by the Allies in order to take out an oil refinery. Although Slovakia was a satellite state of the Third Reich, the Wehrmacht occupied Slovakia only in August 1944 after the Slovak national uprising. Due to the non-detonated bombs



Rosa und Gitta Mandelbaum

lying around, the Wehrmacht needed hands to help neutralize these bombs. When my dad was offered the option to join the group sent to neutralize these bombs for the Wehrmacht he jumped at this opportunity as he knew that the alternative was to be sent to a concentration camp where he might starve to death or, far worse, be sent to a Nazi death camp. Still, he managed to keep kosher by discarding the chazer and meat, surviving on the bread and whatever else was left of the Wehrmacht meals.

In December 1944, he was brought to Sachsenhausen concentration camp, very close to the city of Oranienburg, north of Berlin, in Germany. In the early morning hours of April 21, 1945, the SS started to evacuate the concentration camp as the Red Army was only a few kilometers away. The prisoners, my father among them, were forced to march between 20 to 40 kilometers a day. Many succumbed to general weakness and those who fell on the march were shot dead by the SS. Approximately 33,000 Nazi prisoners were on this death march, marching in groups of 500. At this late point, the SS allowed workers of the international Red Cross to distribute food packages to the prisoners while marching and thus many could be saved from starving to death. Nevertheless, prisoners in their thousands succumbed and died or were shot dead along the way. On April 23, 1945, approximately 18,000 prisoners were concentrated and deserted in a forest known as Belwar Wald where they stayed and wandered around for approximately a week to 10 days.



Rosa and the 3 children

The SS simply ran away, leaving the prisoners to their own devices in the Belwar Wald. Some surviving prisoners, my dad among them, were finally discovered by units of the U.S. Army on or around April 29, 1945 and were thus liberated. Others among the scattering prisoners were liberated by the Red Army. Uncle Ralph never had a Bar Mitzvah celebration because his Bar Mitzvah happened to fall on the Sabbath of March 12, 1938 (as it happened to be, it was Shabbat

Zachor when Jews traditionally are required to remember – never to forget – that Amalek attacked them for no reason after they had left Egypt when the Jews were tired and weary and Amalek did not fear G-d), exactly when the Nazis marched into Vienna declaring the Anschluss and disrupting any semblance of normal Jewish life. The Nazis raided Jewish homes, forcing Jewish men, women and children to partake in so-called “scrubbing parties” in order scrub away the anti-Nazi and pro-Austrian slogans and symbols from the Vienna city walls and pavements. The Nazis, together with their local collaborators and sympathizers, would gleefully partake in this, forcing the Jews to their hands and knees to scrub the streets clean with very sharp, harsh cleaning materials containing acid that would burn raw their hands, knees and any exposed skin. To my recollection of what my uncle Ralph told me in Netanya, shortly after the time that he was supposed to have a Bar Mitzvah, the so-called scrubbing parties started, and he went to the local police station



Gittel Mandelbaum

to demand to know why his father was being humiliated and forced to clean the streets on his hands and knees. They just laughed and responded, “Boy, go home and be happy we did not kill your father!”

Having a good singing voice, as well as being a very pious and respected member of the community, Grandfather Mordechai Zvi was leading the last service of Yom Kippur on Wednesday, December 27, 1944 – known as Ne’ilah (the closing service of Yom Kippur) – when the Nazis burst in, disrupting the Yom Kip-

pur service at Theresienstadt, forcing everyone at gunpoint to vacate immediately. The next day, Thursday September 28, 1944, my grandfather was put on transport EK (number 940) to Auschwitz where he was murdered. Only a few days later, on October 4, 1944, my grandmother (number 966) and Aunt Gittel (number 967) (only an 11-year-old child at the time) were taken by transport EN to Auschwitz where they too were summarily murdered.

My eldest sister Rosalind Weiss from Rehovot, Israel, relates:

Our brother Moshe told me that when he was in a hospital in Vienna once Jewish people heard that Dad's father's grandson was in the hospital and many people came to visit him and told him what a wonderful man his grandfather had been.

My great-aunt Lily Nayney (my grandmother's sister who survived the Holocaust and made it to New York) told me that her father invited Grandfather Mordechai Zvi to have Shabbat meals with their family because he lived in the same building and

came from big Yichus [distinguished family] (his mother, Rachel Kaminer-Mandelbaum was a Kaminer from Poland and the Kaminers were business people in Poland and also related to the Gerer Rebbe). Mordechai Zvi Mandelbaum had arrived to do business in Hungary while a 27-year-old bachelor. According to Lily Nayney, he and Rosa Kohn fell in love over the Shabbat table and later married even though he was six and a half years her senior. According to what Uncle Ralph told me, he had a lot of money when he arrived in Hungary but lost a lot of it when his currency was rendered virtually worthless due to currency changes. Dad said that both his parents had lovely singing voices and that is probably how he inherited such a wonderful voice and became a chazan [cantor]. Dad loved to sing the songs his mother, Grandmother Rosa, had sung to him because he loved his mother very much. He would sing them to me when he walked me to and from school. I remember two of them and how I would sing them along with Dad.

This is how one song goes (sad to hear considering how the Nazi's killed her). *G-tt weist vos ehr tut; ehr shruft keinem nisht umzist; G-tt und zein veghen zenin gerecht.* (Translation: G-d knows what he does; He does not punish anyone for no reason; G-d and His ways are just).

The second one: *Ve-ahafta leray-acha kemocha; Yiddele a mensh solst du zein*, etc. In English it is about how a Jew should be a good person and how he should treat all people nicely and how one cannot take jewelry, palaces and money to the next world.

One can see from the songs Grandmother Rosa loved to sing to her son – our Father Shalom Mandelbaum – what a special person she was.

My younger sister Leah Zelkowitz from Queens, New York adds:

When the Anschluss occurred in 1938 our Dad ZL was only 15 years old. He was away from the family home as he was studying at various prestigious Yeshivas at different times during the Holocaust years: Nitra yeshiva in Slovakia, a yeshiva in Poland as well

as a yeshiva in Papa, Hungary. [Yeshiva is an institution that focuses on the study of traditional religious texts, primarily the Talmud and the Torah]. The Mandelbaum side of the family was originally from Poland and our Dad had aunts who looked after him. When it became too dangerous to remain in Poland, Aunt Pessel arranged for our Dad to be smuggled in a wagon across the Polish border into Hungary, where there were aunts on the maternal Kohn side living in Hungary.

*Motti Mandelbaum,
Negerlegasse 1, Vienna 1020*

The night of the November pogrom

by Rosalyn Laren nee Mandelbaum (London) [Daughter of Rudolf Mandelbaum]

"Kristallnacht", the pogrom of 9th November 1938, was the event that changed the course of my beloved late father Rudolf Mandelbaum's life forever. He was 13 years old at the time and at the end of that day he was at

the family home in Schiffamts-gasse 18, Vienna with his mother and younger sister. Unusually, his Father had not returned home. His older brother Sholem was away studying in Poland.

The Nazis smashed down the door of the apartment as they had in most of the other Jewish homes in the district, and burst in. My father and his sister Gittel hid under the dining table and saw their Mother being beaten as she could not tell them where her husband was. Everyone was very shaken up by the experience and when my Grandfather returned home the next day he explained what had happened. He helped with Jewish burials at the cemetery and that fateful day some friendly grave diggers had warned him not to go home as they had heard there was going to be trouble for the Jews and their property that night. Grandfather took their advice and spent the night at the cemetery.

After her experience, my Grandmother rarely went out the house and my Father who had been making arrangements to leave, decided it was time for him to join the Kindertransport out of Austria. He wanted to take his 5-year-old sister with him but his parents felt she was too young and that he would have enough responsibility taking care of himself.

At the end of November his Father escorted him to the train station to join a group of children and Dad began his journey to England where he started a new life. He spoke very little about his early life but this is the story as he told it and I feel that as the 80th Anniversary is approaching it is fitting for me to tell it as we, the grand children of Roza and Markus Mandelbaum have come to consecrate a memorial to them and their daughter Gittel outside the family home. Am Israel Chai.

Station 16b

Malzgasse 2

Rosa Bernfeld Josef Bernfeld

Der Stein für **Malvine Rosenbaum** wurde vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

Rosa Bernfeld, geb. Stepper, lebte mit ihrer Mutter bis zum 18.7.1938 in Wien 2, Novaragasse 8/1/9. Ihre letzte bekannte Anschrift vor der Deportation am 12.5.1942 nach Izbica/Polen mit dem XX Transport war: Wien 2, Malzgasse 2/12.

Über Ihren Sohn Josef Bernfeld geb. 27.11.1921 in Wien ist mir nur bekannt, dass er mit seiner Mutter und seiner Großmutter bis zum 18.7.1938 in Wien 2, Novaragasse 8/1/9 wohnte. Danach ist keine eigenständige Anmeldung in einer Wohnung bekannt. Eventuell war er im Umschulungslager Doppl und dort entlassen am 17.11.1941 wegen Umsiedlung der Familie. Da kann aber auch eine Namensgleichheit vorliegen. Vielleicht war es auch jemand anderes mit

ROSA BERNFELD GEB. STEPPER 23.5.1891 AM 12.5.1942 NACH IZBICA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	JOSEF BERNFELD 27.11.1921 AM 1.9.1942 VON MALINES NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
MALVINE ROSENBAUM 6.8.1884 AM 12.5.1942 NACH IZBICA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN

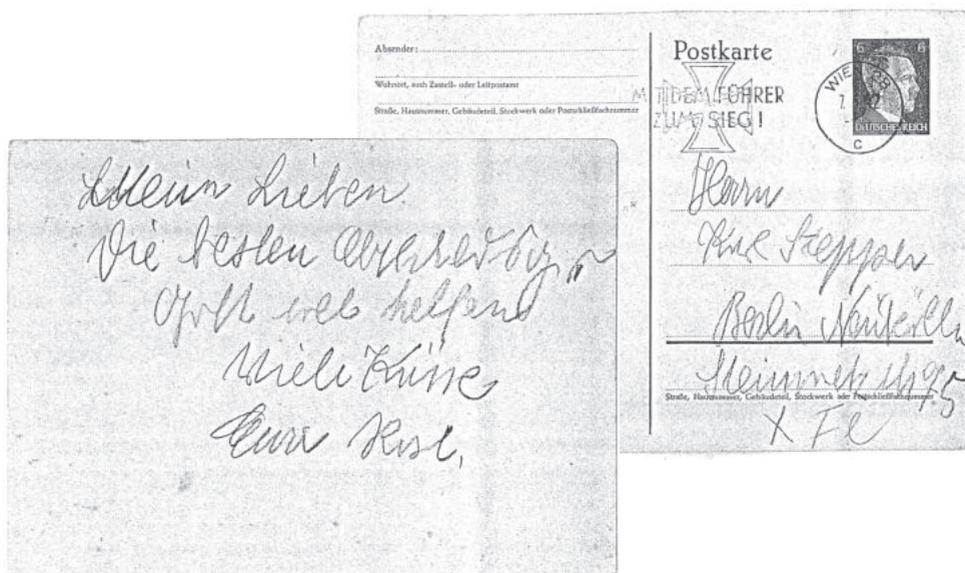


Rosa Bernfeld

**ZUM GEDENKEN AN
201 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN,
MÄNNER UND KINDER,
DIE HIER BEENGT IN
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN
LEBTEN, EHE DIE NAZIS
SIE DEPORTIERTEN
NUR ZWEI VON IHNEN
HABEN ÜBERLEBT**

gleichem Namen. Hier hatte ich im Internet nachgeforscht und bin so auf den Namen gestoßen. Fakt ist aber laut DÖW, dass er nach Belgien in das heutige Mechelen zur Zwangsarbeit deportiert wurde, um von dort am 1.9.1942 nach Auschwitz deportiert zu werden.

Michael Stepper hat diese Station für seine Großtante Rosa Bernfeld, geb. Stepper, und deren Sohn Josef Bernfeld initiiert.



Karte von Rosa an Karl Stepper nach Berlin 5 Tage vor der Deportation

Station 16c

Raimundgasse 4

Max Stepper, Margarete Stepper

Der Stein für **Emma Hofstätter** wurde vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

Leider ist mir nicht möglich, über die Familie meines Großvaters etwas zu berichten, da ich sie persönlich nicht kennenlernen durfte und in unserer Familie nicht viel darüber geredet wurde. Bekannt war nur, dass sie den Holocaust nicht überlebt hatten, da sie sich nach Kriegsende nicht mehr gemeldet haben.

Ich habe auch erst alle Einzelheiten bei einem Besuch in Wien bei der Jüdischen Kultusgemeinde in Erfahrung bringen können und habe dann weitere Recherchen gemacht.

Fest steht, dass mein Großvater, Karl Stepper, 1908 von Wien nach Berlin gezogen ist und dort meine Großmutter, die evangelischen Glaubens war, geheiratet hat. 1909 kam mein Vater zur

MARGARETE STEPPER GEB. WEISS 26.5.1893 AM 26.2.1941 NACH OPOLE DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	MAX STEPPER 24.3.1889 AM 26.2.1941 NACH OPOLE DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
EMMA HOFSTÄTTER 7.9.1889 AM 19.10.1941 NACH LODZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN

ZUM GEDENKEN AN
33 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN
UND MÄNNER UND EIN
KIND, DIE HIER BEENGT
IN SAMMELWOHNUNGEN
LEBTEN, EHE SIE
VON DEN NAZIS
DEPORTIERT UND
ERMORDET WURDEN.

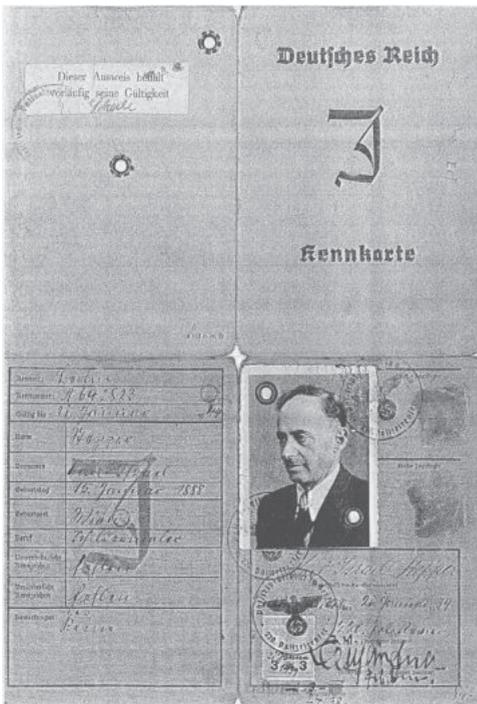
Max
Stepper



Welt. Mein Großvater hat dank der „Mischehe“ die Naziherrschaft unter denkbar schlechten Umständen überlebt.

Max, der Bruder meines Großvaters und seine Frau Margarete Stepper wohnten nach Daten des DÖW in Wien 2, Raimundgasse 4, und wurden am 26.2.1941 nach Opole/Polen deportiert.

Michael Stepper hat diese Station für seinen Großonkel Max Stepper und dessen Frau Margarete Stepper, geb. Weiss, initiiert.



Kennkarte von Karl Stepper



Max mit seinem Bruder Karl

Station 22n Glockengasse 9a

Rachmiel Weitzner, Ernestine Weitzner, Kurt Weitzner

My family, the Weitzners, lived in this building. There were four of them: my mother, Rosa; my uncle Kurt; my grandmother, Ernestine; and my grandfather, Rachmiel. But I knew none of this. My mother, the only one in her family to survive, never spoke of her father, mother and brother. The pain of remembering her family life in Vienna was too deep.

As a child, I saw my mother reading the letters she had received from her own mother, Ernestine. She cried inconsolably for over a day before recomposing herself, never to read those letters again. In 1963, when I was 6 years old, we took a family trip to Europe. As we entered Austria and saw the road signs pointing to Vienna, my mother broke down again. The memories of her family's expulsion, deportation and murder returned. And so, we turned back. Back to England.

ZUM GEDENKEN AN EINE JÜDISCHE FAMILIE, DIE HIER GELEBT HAT	KURT WEITZNER 1.3.1929 AM 14.9.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 18.9.1942 ERMORDET
ERNESTINE WEITZNER GEB. KORNEHL 3.8.1900 AM 14.9.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 18.9.1942 ERMORDET	RACHMIEL WEITZNER 18.5.1895 AM 14.9.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 18.9.1942 ERMORDET



Rosa Weitzner, 1932



Kurt Weitzner, 1932

While she wouldn't talk about her family, my mother would, from time-to-time tell me of her memories of Vienna just before she left. She recounted her horror and dismay when what seemed to be an entire population who greeted each other with "Grüß Gott", could, without second thought, abruptly turn on their fellow citizens and through either active participation or wilful ignorance abet their murder.

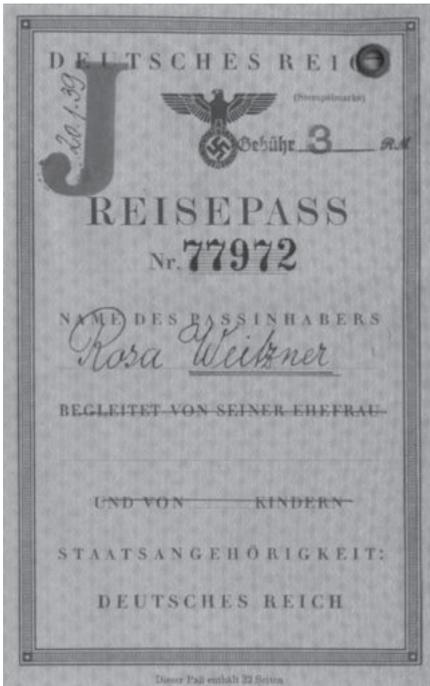
She remembered the Anschluss in 1938 when those same Viennese thronged the streets to welcome the incoming troops with flowers and adulation, only to later claim they had been the Nazis' first victims.

I was 15 when my mother died in 1972, aged 49. I knew almost nothing of the family that lived in this building. All that I've learned has been by exploring archives and examining documents.

My grandparents were married here in Vienna and both their children were born here too.

47
Wenn du nicht so rasch
so on ins Post hast bräutet
du dir keine Sorge machen
da wir jetzt schon zu spät
geschrieben haben und das
Kostet Spielgeld. Der Kint
ist jetzt in der Schule gestern
war ich mit im ^{Keine} Lehr
erst er hat den Kintal eine
sträubel Lahn gezogen weil der
mein ist schon draussen. Wie ist
das Wetter in England freist
zu sich schon auf die paar
Tage frei zu haben. Küsse Mamma

Ernestine Weitzner's letter to daughter Rosa, circa 1939



Rosa was born on July 25, 1923 and Kurt was born six years later on the March 1, 1929. Rosa was fortunate enough to emigrate

to England. She arrived there on February 23, 1939, aged 15 years. Her brother and parents were not so lucky. They were moved to Malzgasse, a collection centre in Vienna's Leopoldstadt district before their deportation to Maly Trostinec, on September 14, 1942. Four days later, on September 18, 1942 they were murdered.

In 1943, my mother, Rosa, then in England, married my late father, Arthur Grünberg. He later changed his surname to Gilbert and together they had 3 children: Nicholas Raymond, Robert Phillip and me, Richard Ernest.

Richard Ernest Gilbert

Station 22o

Rotensterngasse 5

Der Stein für **Naftali Benjamin Goldberg** wurde von der Enkelin Mary Salton aus New York initiiert.

Er wohnte noch 1938 in der Rotensterngasse 5. Es liegen uns keine weiteren Informationen zu seinem Leben und seiner Deportation vor.

Recherchen des Vereins in der Datenbank des DÖW (Dokumentationsarchiv des Österreichischen Widerstands) ergaben, dass aus diesem Haus zumindest acht weitere Personen deportiert wurden:

Gisela Festerling	7.9.1888
Elias Elio Gelber	17.5.1879
Neschi Gelber	10.8.1878
Stefanie Heller	8.2.1886
Leo Klar	24.3.1890
Paula Porges	13.10.1912
David Teichteil	1.11.1884
Gittel Rifke Teichteil	21.9.1886

**NAFTALI
GOLDBERG**

1.11.1862

AM 9.10.1942 NACH
THERESIENSTADT
DEPORTIERT

AM 25.10.1943
VERHUNGERT

Länger dürfte dort nur die Familie Gelber gelebt haben, bzw. wurden alteingesessene MieterInnen schon vorher zwangsumgesiedelt.

Zur Familie Gelber konnten wir Folgendes recherchieren:

Elias Gelber und seine spätere Frau Neschi wurden in Raw-Ruska, einer Stadt im äußersten Westen der Ukraine, an der Grenze zu Polen geboren. Elias war Kürschner.

Vermutlich versuchten beide zu emigrieren, wurden sie doch in Belgien im SS-Sammellager Mechelen inhaftiert und von dort am 1.9.1942 nach Auschwitz deportiert.

<p>STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN</p>	<p>KURT LÖFF 19.3.1929 AM 29.1.1943 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>
<p>EMMA LÖFF GEB. SPIELMANN 11.8.1907 AM 29.1.1943 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>	<p>ADOLF LÖFF 9.11.1902 AM 29.1.1943 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>

ZUM GEDENKEN AN
22 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN,
MÄNNER UND KINDER,
DIE HIER BEENGT IN
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN
LEBTEN, EHE DIE NAZIS
SIE DEPORTIERTEN.
NUR DREI VON IHNEN
HABEN ÜBERLEBT.

Station 23d Novaragasse 4

Adolf Löff, Emma Löff, Kurt Löff

We are here today at Novaragasse 4, in the district of Leopoldstadt, to dedicate a Stone of Remembrance for the Löff family – Adolf, Emma and Kurt Löff.

This will be the third dedication ceremony of a Stone of Remembrance for members of my family who were victims of the Holocaust. In this case, Emma Löff was the niece of my grandmother, Clara Nichtern (geb. Bader), and my great uncle, Leon Bader. I dedicated a Stone of Remembrance for my grandmother on 18 May 2014 and one for my great uncle on 28 May 2017.

Clara, Leon and Rosalie Spielmann (geb. Bader) were the three remaining siblings of the Bader line. They lived in Vienna. Two other siblings, Yetti Atlas (geb. Bader) and Osias Bader, had died years earlier. Rosalie was my great aunt and the mother

of Emma Löff (geb. Spielmann). Clara, Leon, Rosalie and the Löff family were murdered by the Nazis during the 1942-1943 timeframe. We will be dedicating a Stone of Remembrance for Rosalie Spielmann at a future date.

On 20 September 1938, my mother, Elsa, escaped from Vienna and went to England to work as a domestic. In February 1940, she left England and went to America. From 1938 to 1941, my grandmother and my mother corresponded by letters. From these letters, I discovered Bader relatives that I had never heard of before – in this case Adolf, Emma and Kurt Löff. Like all the other victims of the Holocaust, theirs is a very sad and tragic story.

My grandmother's letters tell of how Adolf (referred to as Dolfi by my grandmother), Emma, and Kurt (referred to as Kurtl or Kurti by my grandmother) would visit my grandmother. At that time, she lived in the thirteenth District [now 14th district], at Hütteldorferstraße 117. Later she was expelled from her apart-

ment and was forced to move to the second district, to Konradgasse 1, a collection apartment in the same building where Rosalie Spielmann lived.

When the Löff family wasn't visiting my grandmother, she was visiting them – first at their apartment in the fifteenth district at 15., Wurzbachstrasse 15, and then from 29 July 1939, in a collection apartment in the ninth district, at Berggasse 19, Door 6, a room in the former home of Sigmund Freud.

The Löff family remained at the Berggasse apartment until 9 April 1942. Then they were forced to move to the second district at Novaragasse 4, where we are now. From this location, on 1 October 1942, they were put on Transport 43 and deported to Theresienstadt. On 29 January 1943, they were put on Transport Ct and were deported to Auschwitz and murdered.

Unfortunately, I don't know much about the Löff family before the time covered in my grandmother's letters. But the

letters from 20 September 1938 to 17 November 1941 have given me quite a bit of insight into Dolfi and Emma Löff, and a little bit about Kurt Löff.

Dolfi was always trying to make things seem better than they were, even while the situation in Vienna was getting progressively worse for all the family members and for all the Jews of Vienna. Emma was always cooking and baking, with the meager ingredients that she could obtain, to make life as good as possible for the family. Kurt did what he could as a young boy growing up in Nazi-controlled Vienna. He would play soccer with his cousin, Paul Spielmann, in Vienna, and later in Theresienstadt.

From a letter dated 18 January 1939, my grandmother says that the previous Sunday a number of people came by for a visit: Dolfi's cousin, Egon Weiss, and Tante and Grete Spitz. My grandmother says that they laughed a lot with Dolfi and that he did a lot of nonsensical and funny things, so that they might be distracted from their sorrowful situation.

From a letter dated 20 February 1939, my grandmother says that yesterday Dolfi came with a rose carnival hat. He put on the large batiste pants like the actor's. He entertained everyone with a comic impersonation of Charlie Chaplin with the broad trousers.

My grandmother says that you can imagine what he looked like. Dolfi was dancing, and Egon Weiss imitated a cowgirl. They all laughed. Egon put on Elsa's red and white scarf and made faces and joked around. They all forgot about their worries.

In 1941, Dolfi was conscripted to become a forced laborer at a camp outside of Bad Ischl. From another 1941 letter, my grandmother writes that the poor boy is outside where he does hard labor while being sick. She says that he is always going to the doctor to treat a chest cold in his lungs due to the long hours of exposure to the cold while performing heavy labor.

My grandmother writes that Emma is not looking well and is very worried about Dolfi. My grandmother says that Dolfi always made things fun. They always had good times when he was with them.

Later in 1941, my grandmother says that when she was at Emma's place, a letter from Dolfi arrived. The letter said that he received the package of food that they sent to him. My grandmother said that Dolfi was funny. Even in grim situations, Dolfi made jokes about everything.

In my grandmother's final letter of 17 November 1941, she says that a card came from Dolfi. Dolfi sends his most heartfelt congratulations and kisses to Elsa in spirit. (Elsa was married on 16 November 1941.) Dolfi, as well as my grandmother, would have liked to be there for Elsa's wedding. My grandmother said that it was not their destiny. Dolfi would have entertained everyone. Elsa knows how funny Dolfi is.

My grandmother said that Dolfi would like to get a letter from Elsa and gives his address:

A. Löff

Wohnlager Mitterweissenbach
Post Ischl
Ober-Donau

Adolf Löff eventually returned to Vienna to be with his family. The Löff Family was deported to Theresienstadt on 1 October 1942 and then to Auschwitz on 29 January 1943, where they were murdered.

Without this Stone of Remembrance, we would lose the identities of Adolf, Emma and Kurt Löff. Today, we dedicate this Stone of Remembrance to the Löff family, so that they live in our memories and so that we, as well as all who pass by this Stone of Remembrance, will read their names and will know who they were and the tragedy that befell them.

May their memories be a blessing.
Irv Adler

STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN	SAMUEL BENCZER 19.8.1868 AM 29.10.1939 IN BUCHENWALD ERMORDET
JOSEFINE KATZ 17.5.1925 AM 14.9.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 18.9.1942 ERMORDET	ROSA KATZ 9.4.1900 AM 14.9.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 18.9.1942 ERMORDET

ZUM GEDENKEN AN
57 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN,
MÄNNER UND KINDER,
DIE HIER BEENGTE IN
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN
LEBTE, EHE SIE VON
DEN NAZIS DEPORTIERT
WURDEN.
NUR VIER VON IHNEN
HABEN ÜBERLEBT.

Station 23e Novaragasse 13

Samuel Benczer

Die Steine für **Josefine Katz** und **Rosa Katz** wurden vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

We are gathered here today to commemorate the life of Samuel Benczer.

I, Baruch Axelrad, my sister Chana Pavlowitz, our five children and fifteen grandchildren too, are the only known descendants of our great grandparents Henne (nee Frankel, from Rzeszow) and Wolf Benczer from Stryj (Stanislawow district, Poland, now Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine).

Our great grandparents had six children: Benjamin, Samuel, Mozes-Aron, our grandmother Chana Axelrad, Keila and Hersch-Lazor. We had only little knowledge about those family members, based on records from Jewishgen and "Yad-Vashem" archives, plus very few letters. The preparations for this event

initiated a new research in which new and important information was found.

Samuel was born on 19th August 1868. He married Betty Gold or Goldman from Uherce (Southern Galicia, Poland) and they lived at Grodek (Lwow district, Poland, today Horodok, Ukraine), where their three daughters were born: Keila, Laura and Gisela "Genia" Mandler.

We had no information at all about two of them, but the youngest emigrated before WWII to Palestina, to meet our father Wolf Axelrad who was her cousin (and to marry Yohan Mandler – they had no children). Only on March 2018 I found that Keila married a relative named Jacob Benczer – they emigrated to USA, she changed her name to Caroline, and they had a son William.

Samuel and Betty divorced, and he, like many-many Jews from Galicia moved during WWI (1915) to Vienna. He lived at 13 Novara street – from there I found two letters to his daughter at Tel-Aviv.

From the beginning of the National-Socialist era the Jewish

population suffered chase and deportations. Between September 11 and 13, 1939, after the attack on Poland, over thousand of Polish-born Viennese Jews were detained – they were imprisoned beneath the grandstands in the corridors of sector B, in the former "Praterstadion" (now Ernst-Happel-Stadion) in Vienna. On September 30, 1038 prisoners were deported to Buchenwald concentration camp and Samuel was among them. According to the list of Austrian murdered Jews he passed away on October 29. There is a record in "Burial Registry – Austria" (Jewishgen) that he was buried on 21/6/1940 at Wiener Zentralfriedhof, Tor 4, group 20 (or 20A), row 29, grave 57 [and his last address was Heinestraße (renamed Schönererstraße during the Nazi-reign) 30, 1020 Vienna]. His name is engraved, in Hebrew letters and biblical form "Shmuel"; on his daughter's grave in Israel.

Thanks to Daliah Hindler and the "Vereine Steine der Erinnerung" for their activity.

Ergänzende Recherchen des Vereins ergaben:

Samuel Benczer, geboren am 19.8.1868 in Stryj, wurde am 10.9.1939 durch die Stapo in Wien verhaftet und traf mit einem Bahntransport aus Wien mit 1067 Häftlingen am 2.10.1939 im KZ Buchenwald ein. Als jüdischer Polizeihäftling mit der Nummer 6754 registriert, pferchte ihn die SS in das sogenannte Sonderlager – auch „kleines Lager“ oder „kleines Polenlager“ genannt – ein. Über 1000 Wiener Juden und Hunderte von Polen brachte man dort für längere Zeit unter. Als nächste Angehörige gab Samuel Benczer seine Schwägerin Scheindel Benczer in Wien, Schönerer Straße (= Heinestraße)

36/26 an. Bereits am 29.10.1939 verstarb er im Lager II an „Herzschwäche bei Ruhr“, wie es in der Totenmeldung heißt.

Vier große Zelte dienten den Männern in den kalten Monaten als Unterkunft. Die SS kürzte die Verpflegungsrationen der überwiegend an Ruhr erkrankten Häftlinge auf 200g, manchmal auf 100g Brot und 3/4 l Suppe ohne Gemüse und Kartoffel. Der vom restlichen Lager abgeriegelte Platz wurde zum Ort der ersten vorsätzlichen Massentötung von Juden und Polen im KZ Buchenwald. Bis zum Jahresende 1939 starben an diesem Ort über 400 Wiener Juden, über 100 polnische Juden und etwa 300 Polen.

Station 40

Czerninplatz 4

Gittel Kohn, Schmiel Hersch Kohn Menasche Gold

Der Stein für **Emma Fridezko** wurde vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

It is a sad and difficult task to evoke the memories of my murdered aunt Gittel and my young cousin, Schmiel Hersch. And, sadly, the memories are faded and few.

We were five young first cousins in Vienna when Hitler's storm troopers invaded in 1938. Schmiel Hersch, whose murder we are commemorating today was the eldest (born 1930). I was next, my cousin Rachel, now in Sidney/Australia, followed, my cousin D'vora, now in Petach Tikvah, Israel, was next, and the youngest, Nachum – may he rest in peace – was buried in Sidney just months ago.

GITTEL KOHN 20.11.1896 AM 27.5.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 1.6.1942 ERMORDET	SCHMIEL HERSCH KOHN 24.7.1930 AM 27.5.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT AM 1.6.1942 ERMORDET
MENASCHE GOLD 30.1.1881 1939 FLUCHT NACH POLEN SCHICKSAL UNBEKANNT	EMMA FRIDEZKO 5.4.1860 AM 21.9.1942 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET

ZUM GEDENKEN AN
32 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN
UND MÄNNER, DIE
HIER BEENGTE IN
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN
LEBTEN, EHE SIE VON
DEN NAZIS DEPORTIERT
WURDEN.
STELLVERTRETEND FÜR
DIE VIELEN



It was Nachum who annually said the memorial Kaddish service for Schmiel Hersch these many years after we uncovered when and where Schmiel Hersch had been murdered.

I am the only one, I believe, whose memory bank contains memories of Schmiel Hersch or his mother, my aunt Gittel (born in 1896). The last memory I have of him took place at this very site, when the family stood surrounding the death-bed of my late grand-mother, Chasia. She reposed in her bed on white pillows and sheets, covered by a white duvet, with her

sons and daughters and we two grandchildren surrounding her bed, reciting psalms and crying. The attending physician, a Jew, spoke up and asked: "Why are you crying and lamenting, here she is, in her old age, dying in her own bed, with her loving family around her. Only G-d himself knows when, where and how we shall die." He was prescient... as the story was told later he was caught up in the Nazi horror and did not survive.

Of those present, my parents and I were not the only ones to survive. An uncle, Yitzchak, his wife Zilly, and my cousin Devorah

survived miraculously when the Patria on which they were trying to reach the holy shores of the promised land was sunk in Haifa harbor. They lived, and gave birth to the only Israeli-born member of my generation, Moshe.

My aunt Rivve and family fled to France, where she was caught by the Germans, leaving her children hidden safely behind. Her husband fought with the French partisans and survived. He then located his children and took them to Australia where he had a sister.

My Aunt Gittel, whom we mourn and commemorate today, had an unhappy, fraught and very sad life. She married fairly late, had an unhappy marriage that, apparently, ended in divorce, and an only child whose safety she could not assure while in the throes of the most despicable onslaught ever caused by man. One can only imagine, if one dares, the fear and anxiety with which she lived here from 1939 'til her death in '42, as well of her last moments facing imminent and inevitable death with

her child at her side. [Gittel Kohn and Schmiel Hersch Kohn were deported to Maly Trostinec on May 27, 1942 and murdered on June 1, 1942]

I have only one memento of her— and in it, the only sample of her handwriting extant. It is from the frontpiece of a small siddur (prayerbook) bound in white enamelled metal with the ten-commandments super-imposed on the cover, which was the parting gift she gave me as we were leaving Vienna in '39. The inscription read: "Zum Andenken von deiner lieben Tante Gittel" (For remembrance of your loving aunt Gittel). I remember her dark, sad eyes and soft-spoken voice, and, little as I was, I understood that that was a final farewell.

As for my Uncle Menashe [the husband of Gittel and father of Schmiel Hersch], whose fate we have not been able to determine, he remains a shadowy figure of whom I have no memories.

*May G-d avenge them all.
Netta Kohn*

HIER WOHNTE	
<p>ELSA SPITZ GEB. TRÄGER-NEUSPIEL 23.6.1897 AM 27.4.1942 NACH WLODAWA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>	<p>GUSTAV SPITZ 12.7.1890 AM 27.4.1942 NACH WLODAWA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>
<p>REBECCA LEWINTER GEB. KNAULL 5.1.1909 AM 23.6.1943 VON DRANCY NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>	<p>JACOB LEWINTER 22.7.1904 AM 17.8.1942 VON DRANCY NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET</p>

Elsa and Gustav Spitz were assimilated Jews who were both born in Vienna. They lived opposite the famous Prater fair-ground in Vienna's second district with their three children, Heinz, Kitty and Lilly. Gustav was the proprietor of a café which was located on the ground floor beneath their pleasant and spacious apartment.

Leading up to the Anschluss (when Germany annexed Austria in 1938) people were often unemployed and would sit in the café all day nursing a cup of coffee and reading the free

Stationen außerhalb des Weges

Ausstellungsstraße 5

Gustav Spitz, Elsa Spitz

Die Steine für **Rebecca Lewinter** und **Jacob Lewinter** wurden vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

newspapers. After the Anschluss, the Nazis took over their flat and used it as some sort of operations centre. Gerlinde Kraus, who lived there from the mid 1970s, found listening devices in the walls when she came to rewire the apartment.

The Spitz family were forced to share a much smaller apartment in Schmelzgasse in the heart of the Jewish district. The family tried hard to get out of Vienna, but Gustav was too old for the domestic service scheme in the United Kingdom. However the children were accepted onto the

*Elsa and
Gustav Spitz*



'Kindertransport' scheme by the Quakers in Manchester, England and left from Vienna's Westbahnhof in February 1939.

In the early 40s Elsa and Gustav were hidden by the Kroch



Heinz, Kitty and Lilly

family, but somehow they were found by the Nazis and forced to assemble, as one of a thousand other Viennese Jews, at a school in Kleine Sperlgasse (opposite the school their son Heinz had attended). People often had to wait there for many hours or even days. Some committed suicide. Often they were assaulted by the Nazis and were forced to sign documents handing all their possessions to the state.

From there they were taken to Aspangbahnhof from where they departed on the 18th Transport from Vienna leaving at 7.11pm on 27th April 1942 together with around 1000 fellow sufferers. The train was originally

meant to go to Izbica and early reports stated this as the destination. There seems to have been confusion about this as late as 1974 when the destination was said to be either Izbica, Wlodawa or even Lublin. However the original document, preserved at Yad Vashem clearly shows the entire route, confirming that the transport went to Wlodawa, in eastern Poland.

The list of names has been preserved in Yad Vashem and Elsa and Gustav appear as numbers 552 and 551. The station was 6 kilometres outside the town of Wlodawa. Elsa and Gustav arrived here at 11pm on 29th April and marched through the night with the other Viennese Jews, arriving at the town at 6am on 30th April. The station can still be seen today, although trains no longer run there. Around 70% of the 10.000 inhabitants of Wlodawa before the war were Jewish. Their number grew further as Jews from the „Altreich“ were deported to Wlodawa in 1942. The living conditions increasingly worsened.

We know that the deportation of April 27th was the only one of Viennese Jews to be sent to Wlodawa. One resident remarked that they were dressed elegantly, as if they were going for an afternoon walk. They said that the Germans treated them well. According to a combination of eye witnesses, on Friday 22nd May 1942, the first day of the Jewish Festival of Shavuot the Germans gathered the Viennese Jews, together with the sick, the old, those without work booklets and a transport of Jews from Mielec and put them into the local cinema. Workers returning to the city at ten that night heard shots and explosions from the direction of the cinema. It was a moonlit night. One eye witness saw masses of people walking in a line towards the Grukhovka train station. They were led in a procession with pushes and blows. Cries, shrieks, wails, shots and explosions could be heard the whole time. When the entire procession passed and disappeared from sight, the place was as silent as a graveyard. At the same time the bodies of many dozens of Jews were found sprawled in the cine-

ma, where they had been shot to death or blown up by hand grenades that had been thrown at them by German soldiers.

According to Martin Gilbert: The Holocaust, The Jewish Tragedy, on Saturday 23rd May 1942, around 2000 Jews were taken from Wlodawa to Sobibor and murdered. In several further "actions" taking place in the course of 1942 nearly all Jewish people gathered in the Wlodawa Ghetto were killed on the spot or brought to the Sobibor gas chambers. Only 3 of the deported Viennese Jews survived. The

exact day of death of Elsa and Gustav Spitz is unknown.

At the time of their deaths Elsa was 45 and Gustav was 52. Nothing can ever be done to right this wrong or undo the psychological damage to their children, but these Stolpersteine will mark the fact that these two human beings lived, loved and walked the streets of Vienna, the city they fondly called their home.

*Danny and Eve Allen
Lilly's children (the only grandchildren of Elsa and Gustav)*

Scholzgasse 10

Scheindel-Sara Benczer

Die Steine für **Josef Fries**, **Zacharias Roth** und **Israel Schächter** wurden vom Verein Steine der Erinnerung initiiert.

HIER WOHNTE	
SCHEINDEL-SARA BENCZER GEB. STERNBERG 5.1.1878 AM 12.5.1942 NACH IZBICA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	JOSEF FRIES 26.10.1878 AM 17.7.1942 NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
ZACHARIAS ROTH 16.8.1892 AM 31.8.1942 VON DRANCY NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	ISRAEL SCHÄCHTER 25.1.1862 AM 20.10.1939 IN BUCHENWALD ERMORDET

Sheindel-Sara Benczer and her daughters

We are gathered here today to commemorate the life of Sheindel Benczer.

I Baruch Axelrad, my sister Chana Pavlowitz, our five children and fifteen grandchildren are the only descendants and relatives of our Benczer family Stryj (Stanislawow district, Poland, now Ivano-Frankisk, Ukraine).

Our grandparents Henne (nee Frankel, from Rzeszow) and Wolf Benczer had six children: Benjamin, Samuel, Mozes –Aron, our

grandmother Chana Axelrad, Keila and Hersch-Lazor. We had only little knowledge about those family members, based on records from Jewishgen and “Yad-Vashem”; plus very few letters.

Scheindel-Sara Sternberg/Leibel was born on 5th January 1878 at Boryslaw or Bursztyn. These two towns are in Eastern Galicia, today Ukraine. She was the wife of Mozes-Aron Benczer. Their two daughters were born at Stryj: Ruchel in 1902, and Chana on 8th November 1906.

1914 the family arrived in Vienna and resided at 1020 Scholz-gasse 10. Mozes died on 2nd April 1935. I found several letters (dated after his death) from the women to my father Wolf Axelrad in Palestina – and they had new names: Zania, Rosa and Jeanette.

The fate of the two daughters is unknown. Only about Scheindel-Sara was found a record in the Austrian Murdered-Jews-list: on 12th May 1942 she was

deported with transport 20, her victim number was 307, to Izbica (Krasnislaw, Lublin, Poland). Her last address in Vienna was Malzgasse 2.

It is assumed that all the three were murdered.

Thanks to Daliah Hindler and the "Verein Steine der Erinnerung" team for their activity.

Baruch Axelrad

Israel Schächter

Israel Schächter wurde am 25.1.1862 in Podhajce (heute: westliche Ukraine) geboren und war ein Kaufmann. Er lebte seit 1914 in Wien, war verwitwet und Vater dreier Töchter. Seine Eltern waren Moses Leiser und Berel Schächter, Israel Schächter hatte zwei Geschwister, beide waren 1939 schon verstorben.

Israel Schächter wurde – gemeinsam mit über 1000 jüdischen Männern aus Wien, die

entweder polnische Staatsbürger waren oder staatenlos mit polnischem Heimatrecht – am 10./11.9. 1939, also kurz nach dem Beginn des Krieges gegen Polen, in Wien verhaftet. Da die Gefängnisse zu dieser Zeit schon überfüllt waren, wurden die Häftlinge ins „Praterstadion“ (heute „Ernst-Happel-Stadion“) gebracht und dort inhaftiert. 440 der dort Inhaftierten wurden zwischen 25. und 30. September von einer eigens dafür zusammengestellten Anthropologischen Kommission unter Lei-

tung von Josef Wastl zur Untermauerung der Rassenlehre des Nationalsozialismus vermessen. Von einigen wurden auch Fotos, Masken und Büsten angefertigt und Haarproben entnommen. Auch Israel Schächter war vermessen und fotografiert worden. Am 30. September wurden die Häftlinge zum Wiener Westbahnhof gebracht und in das KZ Buchenwald deportiert. Die meisten von ihnen waren schon in den nächsten Wochen tot.

Israel Schächter (Gefangennummer 7489) wurde am 20.10.1939 in Buchenwald ermordet. Er stand im 78. Lebensjahr.

Wir danken Dr. Margit Berner von der Anthropologischen Abteilung des Naturhistorischen Museums für ihre freundliche Unterstützung bei der Recherche und die zur Verfügung gestellten Dokumente und Fotos.

Lit:

Spring, Claudia, Staatenloses Subjekt, vermessenenes Objekt: Anthropologische Untersuchungen an staatenlosen Juden im September 1939, in: Gabriel, Heinz Eberhard / Neugebauer, Wolfgang (Hg.): Vorreiter der Vernichtung, Zur Geschichte der NS-Euthanasie in Wien, Teil III, Wien u.a., 2005, S. 199–209

Spring, Claudia, Vermessen, deklassiert und deportiert, in: zeitgeschichte 2 / 32. Jg / 2005, S. 91–110

Wehlistraße 218

Littman Merl, Chaje Feige Merl, Paula Merl

This is the story of a family that called Vienna home. A father, a mother, an aunt/step-mother, and six children. They came there seeking a better life from the poverty and institutionalized anti-semitism of the Austro-Hungarian region Galicia. At their height, they were nine. By 1945, only four had survived.

This is the story of a family whose members were arrested, forced into hard labor, sent into exile, and murdered. All because they were Jewish.

For 80 years, they have been denied a final testament. Their stories have suffered the same diaspora as their owners. Fragmented, scattered, incomplete – they have similarly been casualties of National Socialism. But today, we attempt to reclaim the narrative – to reassemble the pieces from letters, documents, and sheer force of will. We at-

ZUM GEDENKEN AN EINE JÜDISCHE FAMILIE, DIE HIER GELEBT HAT	PAULA MERL 18.12.1907 AM 5.4.1943 VON DER GESTAPO VERHAFTET UND IN EIN UNBEKANNTES LAGER DEPORTIERT
CHAJE FEIGE MERL GEB. GOLDBERG 19.11.1870 AM 24.9.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT TOD AM 6.10.1942	LITTMAN MERL 25.10.1879 AM 24.9.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT UND AM 16.5.1944 NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET



Littman and Chaje Feige Merl

tempt to honor them as people, not just as names on mass extermination records, or numbers on a ship manifest.

We entreat you to read these words, and remember them. To never forget.

The Merls: Pre-„Anschluss“

At the turn of the 20th century, Littman Merl (b.1879) left Chocimierz in Galicia for Vienna, where he married Sara Ellenberg. Sara had come from Oberbyn, a neighboring town of Chocimierz. Together, the couple had six children: Lilli (who died at the age of six), Wilhelm, Paula, Jetty, Hermann and Rosa. Littman supported the family with a small grocery store.

When World War I broke out, Littman was conscripted into the Austro-Hungarian army, and Sara was left to tend to the store. In August 1916, Sara visited her older sister Chaje Feige (b.1870) in Moravia where she ran the household of a Jewish merchant. While there, Sara learned that her husband had been injured, and she passed out upon hear-

ing this news. She died from tuberculosis one month later, before her husband returned from the front.

After the war, Littman, Chaje Feige and the children moved to the basement flat in Wehlistraße 218. Chaje Feige took care of the children, and later married Littman, as was the custom.

As compensation for his injuries, Littman received a candy stand that he had to return after the annexation of Austria into Nazi Germany.

„Anschluss“ 1938

The family realized that the situation was becoming increasingly dangerous for Jews, and that they needed to escape. The original plan was for everyone to emigrate to America, but immigration restrictions made this difficult.

Hermann, the youngest son, was the first to escape. A medical student, he had been expelled from the University of Vienna, along with over 2.700 other Jewish professors and students in 1938.

By September, he managed to flee to the United States – leaving a Gentile wife, Helene, behind. For her protection they divorced. Later, Hermann entered the US Army, and participated in the interrogation of Hitler’s physicians in Germany in 1945, as part of the Military Intelligence Service. He eventually settled in California, where he married his wife Genevieve, and had three sons: Rod, Winston and David.

Before anyone else could leave, „Reichskristallnacht“ [pogrom Nov. 9, 1938] occurred, and the authorities rounded up as many Jews as they could. Littman was arrested, and the rest of the family was locked inside the apartment. Eventually, neighbors in the building protested, and the lock on the door was removed. Had they not complained, the family would have starved. Littman returned after three days.

Shortly thereafter, Jetti secured an exit visa, and barely escaped. Chased by a Nazi truck the night before she was scheduled to leave, she ran to the American embassy, and was miraculously

given protection. She left for New York the following day. During the war, Jetti also joined the US Army, interrogating captured German soldiers, and sending any extra money she made to her family in Austria. Eventually, the money didn’t seem to reach anyone. Jetti settled in New Jersey and married Elihu Brillson. Together, they had one son, Leonard, who was born in 1945.

During the War

For the Merls who remained in Vienna, the situation was dire.

Rosa had married Franz Cerny, a Gentile, and had two children: Margarete and Robert. Though Rosa’s Jewish background put them in danger, Franz refused to divorce her. He was drafted to the Russian front, but still managed to protect his wife and their children Margarete and Robert during the war.

The eldest son Wilhelm had become a goldsmith, but had to relinquish ownership of his shop after „Reichskristallnacht“. He had married Sabine Kornspan

in 1934, and their son Harry had been born the same year. Now, they needed to find a way to survive. After Wilhelm was sent to a labor camp, and escaped, he and Sabine were ordered to work for the Vugesta, clearing furniture from flats that had belonged to deported Jews. This forced labour meant a certain security for the family. By 1945, however, this job was no longer enough to protect them. A Nazi alerted them that they were soon to be sent to a concentration camp. The family managed to hide in a cellar until the Red Army occupied Vienna.

Paula worked as an embroiderer and an operating-room nurse in the Jewish Rothschild hospital in Vienna. After the Nazis assumed power, she obtained a fake passport and worked at a farm in Burgenland. During a Gestapo inspection in April 1943, her real passport fell out of her pocket, and she was captured. She managed to send a message to her sister Rosa from prison: “[...] I was imprisoned for three weeks in Salzburg and seven weeks in Vienna. Now, it’s already the sixth



Paula Merl

week in Krems. Unfortunately I’ll be sent to the concentration camp in Auschwitz. Though, I’m not that desperate, because many endured there for years. So even I will endure it there. Please God, may I come back healthily [...]”

Eventually, Paula was deported to a concentration camp where she was murdered.

Littman and Chaje Feige lived in their basement flat until January 1941 when they were allocated to a group flat in Rueppgasse 13,

which they shared with many other Jews. Finally, they were moved to a huge building in Kleine Sperlasse 2a, where Jews were held before being sent to concentration camps. They waved goodbye to their son Willy and their grandson Harry from the window. Harry recalled that it was the first time in his life that he saw his father crying.

Chaje Feige and Littman were deported to Theresienstadt on September 24th, 1942. Chaje Feige died from a stroke twelve days later, on October 6th, 1942. Littman survived for another year and a half before he was transferred to Auschwitz, and murdered in a gas chamber, on May 16th, 1944.

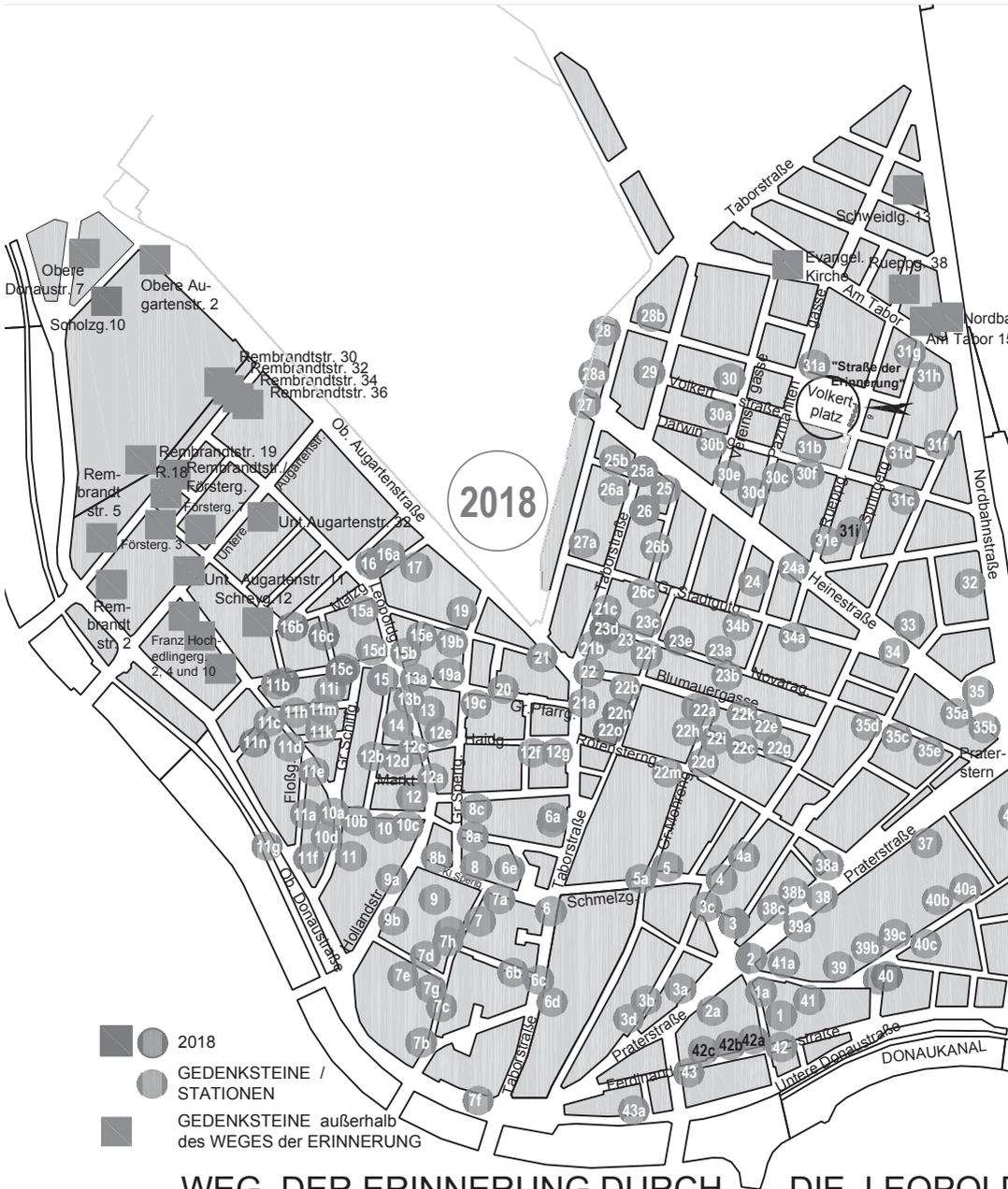
Postscript

In 2017, Jetti's granddaughter Lindsay happened upon a thesis online about the Austrian side of her family, written by someone named Pascal Merl. They soon connected, and realized they were relatives, as Pascal is the great-grandson of Wilhelm Merl. And as many of the descendants contribute to the placement of these Stones of Remembrance, this is now a multinational family project. 80 years after the members of the Merl family were separated, we now return to where the entire family lived for many years – bringing their descendants together in their memory.

Pascal Merl, Walding, Austria
Lindsay Brillson, New York, United States

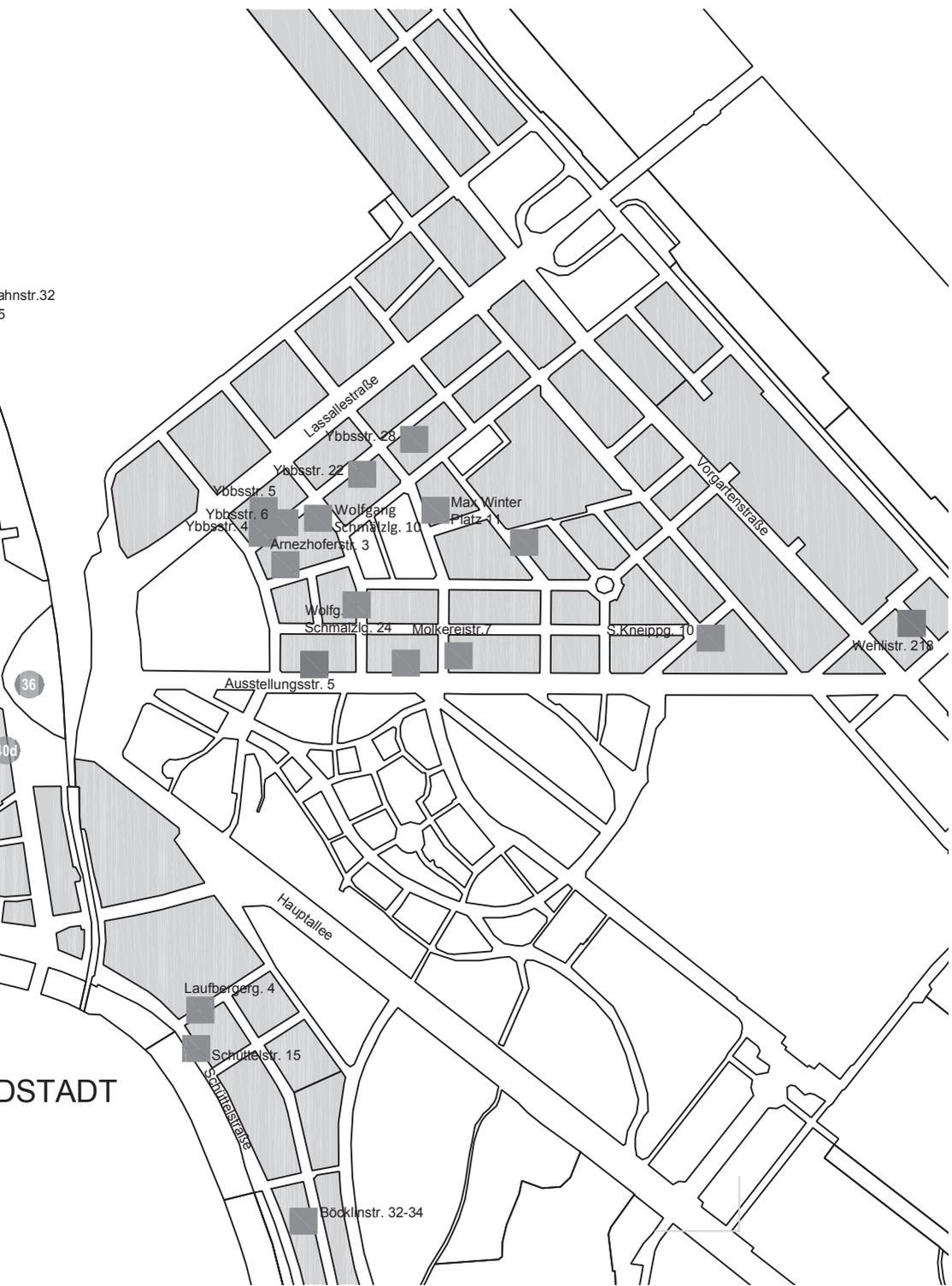
Weg der Erinnerung durch die Leopoldstadt

Station	Adresse	Thema der Station
1	<i>Tempelg. 5/Leopoldstädter Tempel</i>	Projekteingangstafel
1a	<i>Tempelg. 1</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
2	<i>Praterstr. 36</i>	SchauspielerInnen
2a	<i>Praterstr. 26</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
3	<i>Praterstr. 33</i>	Kaffeehäuser
3a	<i>Praterstr. 25</i>	Rolandbühne
3b	<i>Zirkusg. 3-5</i>	Bew. Gemeindebauten
3c	<i>Schrottgießergasse 1</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
3d	<i>Zirkusg. 1</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
4	<i>Zirkusg. 22</i>	Türkischer Tempel
4a	<i>Zirkusg. 30</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
5	<i>Schmelzg. 9</i>	Sammelwohnungen
5a	<i>Johannes v. Gottplatz 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
6	<i>Taborstr./Ecke Karmeliterkirche</i>	Jüdische Vereine
6a	<i>Taborstr. 21a</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
6b	<i>Negerleg. 8</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
6c	<i>Negerleg./Ecke Taborstr.</i>	Deportierte Kinder
6d	<i>Taborstr. 14</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
6e	<i>Karmeliterplatz 3</i>	Hausbewohner
7	<i>Lilienbrunn. 18</i>	Bethaus der Belczer Schul
7a	<i>Kleine Sperlg./Lilienbrunn.</i>	Steine der Erinnerung
7b	<i>Lilienbrunn. 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
7c	<i>Manes Sperberpark</i>	Bew. Lilienbrunnungasse
7d	<i>Hammer Purgstallg. 7</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
7e	<i>Hammer Purgstallg. 6</i>	BewohnerInnen Hammer Purgstallgasse
7f	<i>Obere Donaustr. 101</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
7g	<i>Große Sperlg. 8</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
7h	<i>Lilienbrunn. 11</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
8	<i>Kl. Sperlg. 2c</i>	SchülerInnen
8a	<i>Große Sperlg. 4</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
8b	<i>Kleine Sperlg. 1</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
9	<i>Kl. Sperlg. 2a</i>	Sammellager
9a	<i>Hollandstr. 9</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
9b	<i>Hollandstr. 8</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
10	<i>Krummbaumg. 8</i>	Suppenküche
10a	<i>Große Schiffg. 9</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
10b	<i>Krummbaumg. 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
10c	<i>Krummbaumg. 10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
10d	<i>Große Schiffg. 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11	<i>Große Schiffg. 8</i>	Tempel „Schiffschul“
11a	<i>Floßg. 10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen



WEG DER ERINNERUNG DURCH DIE LEOPOLD

ahnstr.32
5



36

0g

DSTADT

Lassallestraße

Ybbsstr. 28

Ybbsstr. 22

Ybbsstr. 5

Ybbsstr. 6

Ybbsstr. 4

Wolfgang Schmalzlg. 10

Arnezhofstr. 3

Max Winter Platz 11

Vogelgartenstraße

Wolfg Schmalzlg. 24

Molkereistr. 7

S Kneippg. 10

Wehlstr. 218

Ausstellungsstr. 5

Hauptallee

Laufberg. 4

Schüttelstr. 15

Schmalzstraße

Böcklinstr. 32-34

11b	Schiffamtsg.10	HausbewohnerInnen
11c	<i>Hermineng. 8</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11d	<i>Franz Hochedlingerg. 26</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11e	<i>Floßg. 9</i>	Sammelwohnungen
11f	<i>Floßg.4</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11g	<i>Obere Donaustr. 69</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11h	<i>Hermineng. 10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11i	<i>Hermineng. 21</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11k	<i>Nickelgasse 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11m	<i>Hermineng. 12</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
11n	Herminengasse 6	
12	<i>Karmelitermarkt/Eing. Leopoldsg.</i>	Arisierte Stände
12a	<i>Leopoldsg.45</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
12b	<i>Haidg.1</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
12c	<i>Haidg.3</i>	Wandt. Hausbew.Innen
12d	<i>Karmelitermarkt</i>	Wandt. Spanienkämpfer
12e	<i>Haidg. 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
12f	<i>Haidg. 12</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
12g	<i>Haidg. 14</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
13	<i>Leopoldsg. 29</i>	Tempel „Polnische Schul“
13a	<i>Große Pfarrg. 2</i>	Wandt. Hausbew.Innen
13b	<i>Leopoldsg. 27</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
14	<i>Leopoldsg. 26</i>	Schulverein Beth Jakob
15	<i>Leopoldsg./Im Werd</i>	Gerechte und „U-Boote“
15a	<i>Leopoldsg. 16</i>	Sammelwohnungen
15b	<i>Schwarzinger. 2</i>	Sammelwohnungen
15c	<i>Schiffamtsg. 18</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
15d	<i>Schiffamtsg. 20</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
15e	<i>Schwarzinger. 6</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
16	<i>Leopoldsg./Malzg.</i>	Mädchenschule und Sammel-lager für Alte und Kranke
16a	<i>Malzg. 9</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
16b	Malzgasse 2	HausbewohnerInnen
16c	Raimundgasse 4	HausbewohnerInnen
17	<i>Malzg. 16</i>	Jüdische Knabenschule
19	<i>Große Sperlg. 41</i>	Verein „Mathilde“
19a	<i>Große Pfarrg. 8</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
19b	<i>Große Sperlg. 37a</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
19c	<i>Große Sperlg. 28</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
20	<i>Große Pfarrg. 5</i>	Leopoldskirche
21	<i>Obere Augartenstr./U-Bahn-Station</i>	Haschomer Hatzair
21a	<i>Taborstr. 36</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
21b	<i>Taborstr. 46</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
21c	<i>Taborstr. 48</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22	<i>Taborstr. 44</i>	Poale Zion

22a	<i>Große Mohreng. 39</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22b	<i>Glockengasse 15</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22c	<i>Odeongasse (vor Denkmal)</i>	Bew. Odeongasse
22d	<i>Große Mohreng. 38</i>	Wandt. Hausbew.Innen
22e	<i>Blumauerg. 22</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22f	<i>Glockengasse 23</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22g	<i>Odeongasse 9</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22h	<i>Große Mohreng. 37</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22i	<i>Große Mohreng. 40</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22k	<i>Blumauerg. 20</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22m	<i>Rotensterngasse 16</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
22n	Glockengasse 9a	HausbewohnerInnen
22o	Rotensterngasse 5	HausbewohnerInnen
23	<i>Novarag. 8</i>	Rechtsschutzverband jüdischer Hausierer
23a	<i>Novarag. 19</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
23b	<i>Novarag. 20</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
23c	<i>Novarag. 7</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
23d	Novaragasse 4	HausbewohnerInnen
23e	Novaragasse 13	HausbewohnerInnen
24	<i>Pazmaniteng. 6</i>	Pazmanitentempel
24a	<i>Heinestr. 20</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
25	<i>Heinestr. 4</i>	Jura Soyfer und Dichter
25a	<i>Heinestr. 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
25b	<i>Pfeffergasse 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
26	<i>Konradg. 1</i>	Sammelwohnungen
26a	<i>Taborstr. 59</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
26b	<i>Josefineng. 7</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
26c	<i>Große Stadtgutg. 14</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
27	<i>Augarten (Eingang Klanggasse)</i>	Parks für Juden verboten
27a	<i>Castellezg. 14</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
28	<i>Castellezg. 35</i>	Sammellager
28a	<i>Castellezg. 29</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
28b	<i>Lessingasse 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
29	<i>Taborstr. 71</i>	Aris. Fabrik Brill
30	<i>Vereinsg. 21</i>	Jüdische SchülerInnen
30a	<i>Vereinsg. 19</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
30b	<i>Vereinsg. 15</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
30c	<i>Pazmaniteng. 14</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
30d	<i>Pazmaniteng. 13</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
30e	<i>Vereinsg. 16</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
30f	<i>Darwingasse 20</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31	<i>Volkertplatz</i>	„Straße der Erinnerung“
31a	<i>Volkertplatz 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31b	<i>Darwing. 21</i>	Bethaus Jeshuat Achim
31c	<i>Darwing. 33</i>	HausbewohnerInnen

31d	<i>Springerg. 14</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31e	<i>Rueppg.10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31f	<i>Fugbachgasse 19</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31g	<i>Springerg. 27</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31h	<i>Springerg. 30</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
31i	<i>Springerg. 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
32	<i>Nordbahnstr. 50</i>	Nordbahnhof
33	<i>Heinestr. 35</i>	Czortkower Rebbe
34	<i>Heinestr. 30</i>	Verbrannte Bücher
34a	<i>Große Stadtgutg. 34</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
34b	<i>Große Stadtgutg. 28</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
35a	<i>Heinestr. 40</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
35b	<i>Heinestr. 42</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
35c	<i>Novarag. 40</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
35d	<i>Novarag. 38</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
35e	<i>Novarag. 46</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
36	<i>Tegetthoffdenkmal</i>	Straßenwaschen
37	<i>Praterstr. 60</i>	Jüd. Geschäfte
38	<i>Praterstr. 50</i>	Sammelwohnungen
38a	<i>Kirche St. Johann Nepomuk</i>	Gedenksteine der Kirche
38b	<i>Praterstr. 43</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
38c	<i>Praterstr. 37</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
39	<i>Czerningasse 7a</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
39a	<i>Praterstr. 42</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
39b	<i>Czerninplatz 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
39c	<i>Czerningasse 9</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
40	Czerninplatz 4	Verein „Esther“
40a	<i>Czerningasse 23</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
40b	<i>Czerningasse 21</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
40c	<i>Czerningasse 12</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
40d	<i>Franzensbrückenstr 6</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
41	<i>Czerningasse 6</i>	Jüd. SeelenärztlInnen
41a	<i>Czerningasse 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
42	<i>Ferdinandstr. 23</i>	Jüd. Einrichtungen
42a	<i>Ferdinandstr. 19</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
42b	<i>Ferdinandstr. 17</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
42c	<i>Ferdinandstr. 11</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
43	<i>Ferdinandstr./Aspernbrückeng.</i>	Bew. Ferdinandstraße
43a	<i>Untere Donaustr. 13</i>	HausbewohnerInnen

Stationen außerhalb des Weges

<i>Am Tabor 15</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Am Tabor 5</i>	Wandtafel evang. Kirche
<i>Arnezhofstr 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
Ausstellungsstraße 5	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Ausstellungst 19</i>	HausbewohnerInnen

<i>Böcklinstraße 32-34</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Böcklinstraße 110</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Förstergasse 3</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Förstergasse 7</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Franz Hochedlingerg. 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Franz Hochedlingerg. 4</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Franz Hochedlingerg. 10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Lassallestr. 11</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Laufbergerg. 4</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Max Winter Pl. 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Max Winter Pl. 11</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Molkereistraße 7</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Nordbahnstr. 32</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Obere Augartenstr. 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Obere Donaustraße 7</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Paffrathgasse 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 2</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr./ Förstergasse.</i>	Opfer Rembrandtstraße
<i>Rembrandtstr. 18</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 19</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 30</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 32</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 34</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rembrandtstr. 36</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Rueppg. 38</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
Scholzgasse 10	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Schreygasse 12</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Schüttelstr. 15</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Schweidlg. 13</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Sebastian Kneippgasse 10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Stuwerstraße 21</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Untere Augartenstr. 11</i>	arisiertes Kaffeehaus
<i>Untere Augartenstr. 32</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
Wehlistraße 218	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Wohlmutterstraße 17</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Wolfgang Schmälzlg. 10</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Wolfgang Schmälzlg. 24</i>	Aris. Tischlerwerkstatt
<i>Ybbsstr. 4</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Ybbsstr. 5</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Ybbsstr. 6</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Ybbsstr. 22</i>	HausbewohnerInnen
<i>Ybbsstr. 28</i>	HausbewohnerInnen

Orte der Deportation

Alle Informationen beim Dokumentationsarchiv des Österreichischen Widerstands unter www.doew.at

Auschwitz

Vernichtungslager in Polen

Belzec

Vernichtungslager in Polen

Buchenwald

Konzentrationslager in Deutschland

Dachau

Konzentrationslager in Deutschland

Drancy

Lager in der Nähe von Paris, aus dem die Flüchtlinge in 40 Transporten nach Auschwitz deportiert wurden.

Izbica*

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Lublin, von dem aus Deportationen ins Konzentrationslager Belzec gingen. Aus Wien wurden im Jahr 1942 ca. 4000 Juden dorthin deportiert. Niemand von ihnen überlebte.

Kielce*

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Krakau

Kowno/ Kaunas

Ort in Litauen. Alle dorthin Deportierten wurden sofort nach ihrer Ankunft erschossen.

Lagow-Opatow*

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Krakau

Lodz/Litzmannstadt

Das Ghetto von Lodz war eines der größten in Polen. Im Herbst 1941 wurden ca. 5000 österreichische Juden nach Lodz deportiert. Sehr viele Menschen starben an den unerträglichen Lebensbedingungen. Im Jahre 1942 wurden die meisten Überlebenden in Chelmno vergast.

Majdanek

Konzentrations- und Vernichtungslager in Polen

Maly Trostinec

Gut in der Nähe von Minsk. Es war der Ort, an dem die meisten österreichischen Juden ermordet wurden. Die Deportierten wurden sofort nach Ankunft in Gruben erschossen. Ab 1942 wurden auch Gaswagen eingesetzt.

Mauthausen

Konzentrationslager in Österreich

Minsk

Hauptstadt Weißrusslands, in der ein Ghetto errichtet wurde. Ab 1941 gab es dort Mordaktionen.

Modliborzyce*

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Lublin. Im jüdischen Teil der Stadt wurde ein Ghetto eingerichtet. Bei der Liquidation des Ghettos 1942 wurden alle jüdischen EinwohnerInnen in ein Vernichtungslager der „Aktion Reinhard“ deportiert. 999 österreichische Juden wurden nach Modliborzyce deportiert.



Nisko

Die 1939 nach Nisko (Polen) deportierten Männer wurden durch Abfeuerung von Schreckschüssen über die deutsch-sowjetische Grenzlinie gejagt. Dort kamen sie zumeist in Zwangsarbeitslager. Nur wenige überlebten.

Opole*

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Lublin, in dem ein Ghetto eingerichtet wurde. Aus Österreich wurden ca. 2000 Personen dorthin deportiert. Bei der Liquidation 1942 gingen Transporte in die Konzentrationslager Belzec und später Sobibor.

Ravensbrück

Konzentrationslager in Deutschland

Riga

Hauptstadt Lettlands, in der ein Ghetto errichtet wurde. Die meisten der aus Österreich Deportierten kamen bei Mordaktionen oder durch die furchtbaren Lebensbedingungen ums Leben.

Sobibor

Vernichtungslager in Polen

Stutthof

Konzentrationslager in Deutschland

Theresienstadt

Konzentrationslager, von dem aus der größte Teil der Menschen in Vernichtungslager deportiert wurde.

Treblinka

Vernichtungslager in Polen

Westerbork

Durchgangslager in den Niederlanden. Von dort wurden die Juden nach Auschwitz, Sobibor oder Theresienstadt deportiert.

Wlodawa*

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Lublin, in dem ein Ghetto eingerichtet wurde. Aus Österreich wurden ca. 1000 Personen dorthin deportiert. Es wurden zunächst alte Personen und Kinder nach Sobibor deportiert und ermordet, zuletzt auch die „arbeitsfähigen“ Juden.

* In all diesen Orten – sie hatten einen großen jüdischen Bevölkerungsanteil – wurde von den Nationalsozialisten ein Ghetto errichtet. In diese Ghettos wurden in den Jahren 1941 und 1942 jüdische Männer, Frauen und Kinder aus Österreich und dem sogenannten Altreich verschickt. Im Zuge der „Aktion Reinhard“ wurden die Ghettos 1942 liquidiert und alle Menschen aus dem Distrikt Lublin in den Vernichtungslagern Sobibor, Belzec und Majdanek ermordet. Die Juden aus dem Distrikt Krakau wurden in Treblinka ermordet.

Danksagung

Der Verein Steine der Erinnerung dankt allen Menschen und Institutionen, die unser Projekt unterstützt haben. Ohne sie wäre der „Weg der Erinnerung“ nicht zustande gekommen. Der Dank gilt nicht nur der finanziellen Unterstützung, sondern auch der ehrenamtlichen Mitarbeit, dem Weitertragen der Idee und der Unterstützung mit Rat und Tat und guten Worten.

Informationen

Verein Steine der Erinnerung

www.steinedererinnerung.net
1030 Wien, Neulinggasse 13/12

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Finanzielle Unterstützung

Patenschaften für die Steine der Erinnerung: € 150,-

Überweisungen:

Name des Kontos:

Steine der Erinnerung

Bank: Erste Bank

IBAN: AT432011128641890700

BIC: GIBAATWW

Führungen

„Weg der Erinnerung durch die Leopoldstadt“

Walter Juraschek, staatlich

geprüfter Fremdenführer

walter.juraschek@chello.at,

Mobil: 0699 / 1925 15 24

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10 Jahre Steine, die bewegen

Verein Steine der Erinnerung
Elisabeth Ben David-Hindler

10 Jahre Steine, die bewegen

2005 hat der Verein Steine der Erinnerung mit seiner Arbeit in Wien begonnen. Das Buch schildert auf sehr anschauliche Weise die unglaubliche Entwicklung, die das Projekt genommen hat und bietet Einblicke in alle Tätigkeitsbereiche.

Alle Publikationen können Sie bei uns anfordern. Eine Liste der Buchhandlungen, die unsere Publikationen führen, finden Sie auf unserer Homepage.

Datenbank

Auf unserer Homepage finden Sie eine Datenbank mit allen Menschen, die auf unseren Steinen verewigt sind nach Adressen und Bezirken geordnet.

Audiovisueller Guide

In Zusammenarbeit mit Martin Auer erstellen wir einen audiovisuellen Guide der Stationen der Erinnerung im zweiten und neunten Bezirk. Die Fotos und gesprochenen Berichte können vor den Häusern mit Handy oder Tablet oder zu Hause am PC abgerufen werden. Es kommen laufend Stationen hinzu.

Link: <http://steine-der-erinnerung.dort.pw/>

Impressum

Herausgeber. Verein Steine der Erinnerung an jüdische Opfer des Holocausts

1030 Wien, Neulinggasse 13/12

Web: www.steinedererinnerung.net

Email: info@steinedererinnerung.net

Wien, Mai 2018

Lektorat: Rudolf Forster

Layout: Jarmila Böhm

Pläne: Peter Mlczoch



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