

# Stationen der Erinnerung im Alsergrund

Erinnerung an  
das jüdische Leben  
Gedenken an  
die jüdischen EinwohnerInnen

## Vierter Teil

*Verein Steine der Erinnerung*  
*[www.steinedererinnerung.net](http://www.steinedererinnerung.net)*

# Stationen der Erinnerung im Alsergrund

## 4. Teil

Der Alsergrund war traditionell ein Bezirk, in dem viele jüdische WienerInnen lebten. Vor der Machtergreifung durch die Nazis lag der jüdische Bevölkerungsanteil bei 30 Prozent, in der Rossau bei 50 Prozent. 1938 wurden diese Menschen über Nacht ihrer Rechte, ihrer Würde und ihrer Habe beraubt. Menschen aus dem Alsergrund wurden gezwungen, ihre Wohnungen zu verlassen, in Sammelwohnungen im Bezirk oder in der Leopoldstadt zu ziehen. Menschen aus anderen Bezirken wurden in den Alsergrund umgesiedelt, z.B. in das jüdische Altersheim Seegasse. Diejenigen, die nicht flüchten konnten – im Alsergrund waren es 6910 Menschen –, wurden deportiert und ermordet.

Niemand kann das Rad der Geschichte zurückdrehen und die Vertreibung und Ermordung der jüdischen Bevölkerung ungeschehen machen. Aber wir können, nach so vielen Jahren des Totschweigens und der Verdrängung, den Menschen, die hier verwurzelt waren, wieder einen Platz an ihrem ehemaligen Wohnort geben.

Seit der 1. Station, die wir im Jahre 2005 gesetzt haben, hat unser Projekt sich Jahr für Jahr erweitert. Menschen aus der ganzen Welt haben sich an uns mit dem Wunsch gewendet, Steine der Erinnerung für ihre Familienangehörigen zu setzen oder Wandtafeln anzubringen, sodass wir das Gedenken mit diesem Jahr an 57 Orten im Alsergrund verankern können.

Auf diese Weise ist es uns gelungen, den öffentlichen Raum so zu verändern, dass ein Stück Wiener Vergangenheit reflektiert und bewältigt wird, und zur Heilung dieser tiefen Wunde beizutragen. Für die Erstellung dieser Begleitbroschüre danken wir unserem langjährigen ehrenamtlichen Lektor Rudolf Forster und Jarmila Böhm für das umsichtig gestaltete Layout sowie Peter Mlczoch für die Erstellung des Plans.

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Verein Steine der Erinnerung an  
jüdische Opfer des Holocausts

## Station 5e

### Porzellangasse 38

#### Paul und Albina Schifter

HIER WOHNTE	
<b>PAUL SCHIFTER</b> 1.9.1886	<b>BALBINA SCHIFTER</b> GEB. BLASS 31.3.1893
FLUCHT NACH LUBLIN IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	FLUCHT NACH LUBLIN IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
<b>JAKOB HEILPERN</b> 18.9.1866	<b>JOLAN HEILPERN</b> 16.4.1895
AM 26.9.1942 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	



*Balbina*

Pinkas (Paul) Schifter was born on September 1, 1886 in Stanislaw, then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. He was the 5<sup>th</sup> of 8 children of Israel and Frymet Schifter. He attended public school through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. At age 14, he became an apprentice in a drugstore. At 21, Paul followed an older brother already working in the U.S. Paul went to Rochester, New York where he worked for a pharmaceutical firm for 6 years. He saved money in order to buy a drugstore in Stanislaw, which he did when he returned in 1913.

A year later World War I broke out and Paul was called up for

military service. He was attached to the pharmaceutical staff of various military hospitals. He rose to the rank of corporal. He spent some time in Hungary but then was transferred to the occupied areas. He was attached to a hospital in the town of Lublin where in 1916 he met Balbina.

Bajla Esther Blass (Balbina) was born on March 31, 1893 in a small village in the Warsaw area. Balbina's parents were Joseph and Nehuma Blass. Balbina's parents married at age 16 and had 16 children. Only ten reached adulthood. Balbina was the 8<sup>th</sup>.

There were no public schools in the Russian Empire. A tutor regularly came to teach Balbina's brothers in a shed. The girls were not allowed to participate but Balbina would sneak up to the haystack to listen to the instruction. Though she never went to school, Balbina taught herself to read and write in Yiddish, Polish, Russian, and German. Balbina was interested in international affairs, including Zionism. She studied through the autodidactic movement.



*This is Paul with two of his sisters*

In 1910 the family moved to Lublin. Two of Balbina's older brothers were engaged in the wholesale coal and wheat business during the WWI occupation of Lublin. They were heavily involved in the sale of their products to the German and Austro-Hungarian armies. Fluent in German, Balbina became the contract negotiator for her brothers, a truly unique role for a 23-year old woman.

*Balbina and Paul  
mid 30s*



Balbina's parents hosted Shabbat dinners for Jewish soldiers in the occupying army. Paul was a guest and met Balbina. Paul pursued Balbina for years, as evidenced by the hundreds of picture postcards Paul sent. The war ended and Paul was released from the army. In 1919, Paul and Balbina had a traditional Hasidic wedding replete with singing and dancing on the tables. Balbina's father, a Cohen, performed

the wedding ceremony. Since the October 1919 wedding had no legal standing, they had a second legal wedding in 1920 in their new home in Vienna. Paul sold his drugstore in Stanislau and bought a store in Vienna. He operated Drogerie Flora, Nussdorferstrasse 24, from 1919 to 1938.

Richard was born on July 31, 1923 in the family apartment on

Porzellangasse 38. The Schifters were reasonably comfortable. Twice Paul went to the United States for lengthy periods to supplement the family income. Balbina was in charge of the store. The depression reached Austria in 1931. While not down-and-out, the Schifters were not well off. Monday through Saturday they worked in the store and Richard went to Volksschule Schubertschule and then Robert Hamerling Realgymnasium at Albertgasse 18–22. They also had an active social life of friends, opera, kibitzing card games and picnics along the Danube.

The world changed March 11, 1938. Paul, Balbina and Richard sat listening to their rented radio. Ominous, solemn music was followed by an announcement that Chancellor Schuschnigg would speak. He informed the Austrian public that he had received an ultimatum from Hitler to resign. To spare his country bloodshed he did so. The following day the illegal Nazi party took control of Vienna and on March 13, the German Army and Hitler arrived in Vienna.



*Balbina and Richard mid 30s*

The family agreed to go to the United States as quickly as possible. Paul wrote to his uncle in New York, asking him for an affidavit of support. Once received, Paul took the affidavit to the U.S. Embassy to register an application for visas. He should have registered earlier. The date of registration was what counted. The later date meant years of delay in qualifying for a U.S. immigrant visa on Paul and Balbina's quota, the Polish quota, i.e., before the US would allow them entry.



Their lives became quite harrowing. Most non-Jews broke off contact with the family. Harassment was on the increase. Storm troopers painted yellow Stars of David and "Jude" on all Jewish stores, including Drogerie Flora. Paul and Balbina sold the store to the man who had been their employee for the preceding 19 years.

In May 1938, the Polish government had rescinded citizenship from Jews living in Austria and Germany. In response to that action, the Nazi government decided in October 1938 to arrest all Jewish residents of the Reich who had been Polish citizens. An effort was made to deport a substantial number of them to the Polish border. Poland refused to accept them. In October, Paul and Balbina were arrested and spent a night at the police jail at Rossauerlände, but were not sent to the Polish border. They were released with a warning to leave Germany.

November 9, 1938, the family lived through Crystal Night. Jewish owned stores, homes and

synagogues were destroyed. A day later Paul heard reports of Jewish men being arrested in the street and carted away. He wasn't arrested but Paul recognized the danger.

Richard got a Gestapo exit visa and on December 4, 1938 he left from Vienna's Westbahnhof to Rotterdam. There he boarded a ship to New York.

Much of what is known about Paul and Balbina during the following three years is from letters sent to Richard. Paul and Balbina arranged to smuggle themselves into Poland. Paul got to Warsaw in May 1939. Balbina arrived in Poland in June 1939 a few days before the Nazis in Vienna came to get her. "My child, when I came to Warsaw I was ill. I had to walk eight kilometers carrying baggage. I had to pay a lot of money. Dear child, I hope to see you as a grown man and tell you everything."

Balbina stayed with her relatives in Warsaw and Paul went to live with his relatives in Stanislawow. In September 1939, World War II



broke out. By 1940 their date on the US Polish quota waiting list was reached. Correspondence between Richard and his parents reflects the frustrating and totally unsuccessful efforts to get them out of the war zone.

In 1940 Paul moved to Lviv (Lemberg) and Balbina moved to Lublin. Her high level of competence led to her becoming a member of the staff of the Jewish Council. In June 1941 Germany invaded the Soviet Union. Lvov was quickly occupied. Months later, Richard received a postcard from Paul that he and Balbina were together in Lublin. As a member of the Jewish Council, Balbina may have been able to arrange for her husband to join her. The last letter from Balbina was dated November 1941. In December the US entered the Allied war effort. Direct communications between the United States and German-occupied Europe stopped.

The last message Richard received from Paul and Balbina reached Richard in January 1943. It was dated July 1942. It

came through the International Red Cross. "My dear child! Please write us what you are doing. We are healthy. Kissing you, your parents" The return address was Gromacka 37, Maidan-Tatarski, Lublin. Most Jews of Lublin were killed in February 1942. Those left were herded together in what became known as the "Restghetto" of Maidan-Tatarski. They were killed by November 1942 in the Extermination Camp Majdanek.

In 1944, the Soviet forces occupied Lublin. Richard, now an American citizen/soldier stationed in Europe, sent a letter to that address. He didn't think they were still alive, but nonetheless contacted their address. The letter was returned with the message "addressee unknown".

There is no record of Paul or Balbina being among the murdered at Majdanek. Decades later Richard received information from relatives in Israel that a cousin who survived the war in Lublin under false papers said that Balbina had been shot. Research suggests the Jewish Council per-

sonnel had been shot before the gassing started at Majdanek.

Paul and Balbina Schifter were two truly honorable and kind people who lived lives in which they made constructive contributions to society and did everything in their power to give their son a future in the United States. Paul and Balbina have 5 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and eight and still counting great great-grandchildren.

#### Grandchildren

*Judith Schifter Alter*

*Deborah Schifter*

*Richard P. Schifter*

*Barbara Schifter (Lovewell)*

*Karen Schifter (Fromm)*

#### Great-Grandchildren

*Tal Alter*

*Jacob Alter*

*Rachel Schifter Thebault*

*Dannah Schifter (Dam)*

*Laura Schifter Scriven*

*Cassia Schifter*

*Joshua Lovewell*

*Adam Lovewell*

*Ariel Fromm*

*Myka Fromm*

#### Great Great-grandchildren

*Marin Thebault*

*Sage Thebault*

*Violet Thebault*

*Finley Dam*

*Ezra Dam*

*Malachi Dam*

*Eleanor Scriven*

*Isabel Scriven*

# Station 6b

## Hahngasse 24

### Therese, Moses, and Kurt Breitbart

We are gathered here today to commemorate the lives of our family members Therese, Moses, and Kurt Breitbart.

Through diligent and dedicated research by David Breitbart, Kurt's son, and Tziona Breitbart, great-great grandchild and niece of Therese and Moses and great niece of Kurt, we know more today about our family members than we ever have.

Our Moses Breitbart was born in Boryslaw, Poland on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1891.

Our Therese Schneider was born in Radosna, Hungary on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1891.

Our Kurt Breitbart was born in Vienna, Austria on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1925.

<b>ZUM GEDENKEN AN EINE JÜDISCHE FAMILIE, DIE HIER GELEBT HAT</b>	<b>THERESE BREITBART</b> GEB. SCHNEIDER 22.12.1891 AM 4.10.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
<b>MOSES ISAK BREITBART</b> 17.5.1891 AM 28.9.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>KURT BREITBART</b> 11.9.1925 AM 28.9.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT HAT ÜBERLEBT



*Therese & Moses Breitbart*



*Therese, Kurt, Moses and Edward Breitbart*

Moses and Therese were married in Vienna. They owned an apartment on the third floor of an apartment building on the corner of Pramergasse and Hahngasse. Together they owned a butcher shop under their apartment. At a time that was rare for a woman to represent a business, Therese's name was on the sign of the store to welcome all. The kosher butcher shop quickly became a family business with their two sons, Kurt and Edward, working there as well.

At the start of the war, Moses and Therese sent their oldest son Edward to the United States

*Family store*





*Kurt  
Breitbart  
before  
the war*

through Italy on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1939 promising him that they would follow shortly with his brother, Kurt. Unfortunately, Moses, Therese, and Kurt were unable to escape Vienna in time and became victims of the Nazis.

Moses, Therese, and Kurt were forced out of their home and forced to relinquish their store which was the source of their livelihood. They were first brought to a "Sammelwohnung" (collective apartment) in Czerwingasse. All three were then taken to Theresienstadt, also known to be the "model" camp on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1942. From Theresienstadt, they were then forcefully taken to Auschwitz. Kurt and Moses were transport-

ed to Auschwitz on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1944, leaving Therese behind at Theresienstadt. Therese was then transported to Auschwitz on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1944.

Along with millions of Holocaust victims, Moses and Therese were murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Amazingly, their youngest son Kurt survived the Ghetto, Theresienstadt, and Auschwitz. In October 1944, Kurt was transported from Auschwitz to Kaufering camp No. 4 (Dachau) where he remained until he was liberated on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945. While in Kaufering he was forced to work on a construction site that was to be an underground factory.

Upon his liberation, he returned to Vienna and to his childhood home where he retrieved papers, photos, and family heirlooms from family friends who had hid them for safekeeping during the war. Because of Kurt and the actions of these gentiles, our family has living proof of our loved ones who perished in the Holocaust. Kurt was eventually found by a cousin in a displaced



*Kurt after liberation*

persons camp and brought to the US to be reunited with his older brother, Edward.

After three years of living in the US, Kurt was drafted into the US Army during the time of the Korean War. He was sent to Germany to teach German youth and help the youth adjust to post-war life. When in the US, he married Faye Zierler and owned a jewelry store in Manhattan. He is survived by his two sons, David and Steven Breitbart.

Moses and Therese were also survived by their older son Edward. Upon Edward's arrival to the US, he joined the US army

in hopes that he would be sent back to Europe so he could locate his family. Unfortunately, he was sent to Japan. Edward married Edith Fleischauer and both are survived by their two sons Gary and Dennis, and daughter Terry Breitbart.

Moses, Therese, Kurt, and Edward lived lives that were unimaginable in many ways. They will always remain in the hearts of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. As the great-granddaughter of Moses and Therese and great niece of Kurt I promise to never forget them or the others that suffered in the Holocaust. I along with my family will continue to be giving and caring to those who are in need. We will be proud to identify as Jewish individuals and to live the lives our family members would want us to live.

*With love,*

*Faye, Edith, David, Gary, Dennis, Steven, Terry, Marcy, Mariyln, Dotty, Ariel, Brina, Tziona, Berin, Meris, Maya, Richard, and Josh Breitbart*



# Station 6c

## Mosergasse 11

### Israel and Devora Absler

We are gathered here today to commemorate the all-too-short lives of our paternal grandparents, Israel and Devora Absler.

Our grandfather, Israel Absler was born in Tarnow, Poland (then Austrian Galicia) on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 1878. He moved to Vienna before World War 1. Nothing is known of his first wife who bore him a son, Benno, on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1907, and then sadly passed away. Benno remained in his father's care. Israel married on a second occasion and a daughter was born from that marriage. The marriage was short lived and his daughter remained with her mother until emigrating to Palestine in the late 1930's. Sadly, our father tried to track her down after the war, but was unable to do so.

Our grandmother, Devora (Dora) Absler (nee Brill) was born in Bo-

STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN	
<b>DEBORA ABSLER</b> GEB. BRILL 18.7.1884  AM 17.8.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT UND AM 21.8.1942 ERMORDET	<b>ISRAEL ABSLER</b> 13.2.1878  AM 17.8.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT UND AM 21.8.1942 ERMORDET
<b>MARGARETE DÜMEL</b> 22.12.1907  AM 31.8.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT UND AM 4.9.1942 ERMORDET	<b>CHARLOTTE DÜMEL</b> 31.1.1883  AM 31.8.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT UND AM 4.9.1942 ERMORDET



*Devora and Israel Absler*

ryslaw, Poland, on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1884. Her parents were Mordekhai and Helena. She had two sisters who also lived in Vienna and the families kept in close contact.

Israel and Devora had a son, Fritz, our father, who was born on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1914 in Vi-



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

enna. They lived on the ground floor at Mosergasse 11. They turned their apartment into a workshop where Israel, a furrier, made caps and other products. It had a door facing the street for suppliers and customers. Helped by his two sons, Israel worked at his Singer sewing machine from early morning until 7–8 at night, with a break for lunch. They expertly transformed raw cloth and cartons into caps of various sizes, designs and colours. Devora also worked to support the family and in one factory she was active as the union organiser. She was a strong woman with clear views about social justice, a woman ahead of her time.

It was a loving and close family. The family was respected by many in the Jewish and non-Jewish communities. Our father remembered many happy times – he felt very loved by his parents. He was encouraged to be active in a number of activities, e.g. politics and sport which he continued throughout his life.

On Kristallnacht the Nazis confiscated Israel's sewing machine taking away his livelihood. Benno and Fritz were able to leave Vienna due to the resourcefulness of their parents and crossed illegally into Switzerland. Fritz remained in contact with his parents for a few years.

Both Fritz and Benno spent the war years in a labour camp. Benno remained in Switzerland until his death on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1982. Fritz also remained for a few years after the war, dedicated to finding out the fate of his parents. Once this was revealed, he emigrated to Melbourne, Australia, sponsored by his maternal aunt Rose and her husband, Jack.

Fritz, now called Fred, met and married Phyllis Lewis and had two children, Gregory and Deborah. He worked as a manufacturing jeweller and established the first Jewish judo club for youth which he led for many years. He was a loving and dedicated family man who embraced Australia warmly becoming active in politics and a number of community activities. He passed away on 5<sup>th</sup> March 1986 having remained in regular contact with Benno and his childhood friends.

Fred and Phyllis returned to Switzerland and Austria, and Gregory and Deborah also had the powerful and emotional experience of travelling to Vienna and Switzerland.

But what of Israel and Devora whom we are here to remember today? Sadly, they did not escape the Nazis. On 17<sup>th</sup> August 1942 they were deported with transport 36, train Da 223 from Vienna to Maly Trostinec Extermination Camp, in Belorussia. They were murdered four days later on 21st August 1942.

Their courage and love for their family lives on in many ways in our lives. Gregory carries Israel's name as his middle name and Deborah was named after Devora. Their memory was, and is, a blessing. We honour them in our lives and today.

*Phyllis Absler,  
Melbourne, Australia.  
Gregory Absler,  
Melbourne, Australia.  
Deborah Absler,  
Melbourne, Australia.  
2017*

Station 7d  
Garnisongasse 6

**ZUM GEDENKEN AN DIE JÜDISCHEN  
FRAUEN UND MÄNNER, DIE HIER  
WOHNTEN UND VON DEN NAZIS  
DEPORTIERT UND ERMORDET WURDEN**

<b>DR. ARMIN REICHMANN</b> 7.12.1878 AM 2.6.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>ROSA REICHMANN</b> 23.5.1888 AM 2.6.1942 NACH MALY TROSTINEC DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>GISELA HAUSER</b> 7.3.1876 AM 20.6.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT UND AM 19.9.1942 NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
<b>PAULINE KOLLMANN</b> 27.3.1871 AM 20.6.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT UND AM 19.9.1942 NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>JULIE MOLLER</b> 22.8.1873 AM 20.6.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT UND AM 19.9.1942 NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>JULIUS MOLLER</b> 12.3.1869 AM 20.6.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT UND AM 19.9.1942 NACH TREBLINKA DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
<b>MARIANNE LEXMAUL</b> 18.3.1874 AM 20.6.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 23.8.1943	<b>ELSA LION</b> GEB. KORNBLOH 14.2.1876 SELBSTMORD IN WIEN AM 16.3.1942	<b>ERNST LION</b> 16.2.1867 SELBSTMORD IN WIEN AM 15.3.1942

## Rosa & Dr. Armin Reichmann

*These people had faces, names,  
families, friends and jobs – they  
had a life.*

*And then it was taken from them.  
Let's not forget!*

My grandfather, Dr. Armin Reichmann, whom I never got to know, was a well-respected journalist in Vienna of the Nineteen-Twenties and Nineteen-Thirties.

He had a broad education and extensive knowledge in history, law and economics, as well as literature, art and music.

Armin was born in Vienna on December 7th, 1878. He was the son of a textile factory salesman, who emigrated from Budapest to Vienna during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Armin served in the Austrian army as an officer in the supply and transport corps during the third year of WWI. It was a time of great distress caused by food shortage and severe food supply problems.



*Armin und Rosa Reichmann*

Between 1897 and 1905 Armin studied and graduated from the k.k. Universität zu Wien with a doctor's degree in law, although, to the best of my knowledge, he never practiced law.

Armin married Rosa (née Mühlendorf) and had three children – Erica (born 1912, died in England in 2003, as Erica Scholes), Erich (born 1913, was killed sometimes during WWII) and my father, Kurt (born 1917, died in Israel in 1996, as Moshe Rimón).

Armin worked as a journalist in one of the daily newspapers in Vienna, the "Volks-Zeitung", first as a theater-critic and later as the editor of the economics-section. He was also an economics-reporter for two foreign newspa-



*Rosa Reichmann*

pers – the first a Berlin newspaper and the second, more importantly, the "Prager Tagblatt", one of the most important and prestigious newspapers in Europe at the time.

Armin served as Vice President of The Writers' and Journalists' Union for many years.

He enjoyed a high social status and amongst his friends were many leaders of Austria's economic and political life, as well as many famous and important writers, painters and artists of



*Armin's press card*





*My grandfather, Armin Reichmann, with my father, Kurt, and my aunt, Erica.*

that era. Needless to say that at this time Vienna was perhaps the cultural center of the whole of Europe.

It was probably based on these personal relationships that he felt safe to stay in Vienna until it was too late.

This how my father, Kurt, described their home in later years: "...Our home was handsome, without any special external signs of ostentation, but with many very tasteful objects: Jugendstil furniture, a Blüthner piano, carpets, crystal glass artifacts and especially original paintings of some of the best

Austrian painters, which my father received as personal gifts from the artists themselves or purchased at public auctions..." Armin was a collector of paintings and drawings; his collection is mentioned in Sophie Lillie's book "Was einmal war", a handbook of Vienna's plundered art collections.

On November 11th, 1935 Armin received a Certificate of Distinction – the Ritterkreuz – for Austrian merit, from the Bundespräsident des Bundesstaates Österreich, Mr. Wilhelm Miklas.

Then in 1938 everything changed – as the Nazis gained

power Armin was fired from the newspapers, without any notice, and by the time he realized that his connections would not save him, it was already too late.

On June 2nd, 1942 both Rosa and Armin Reichmann were deported to Maly Trostinec extermination camp in Belarus. All the people deported that day were known to have been killed five days later, on June 7th, 1942.

Sadly, while writing this, I realized I know close to nothing about my grandmother, other than her maiden name, Rosa Sara Mühlendorf, her date of birth (May 23rd, 1888) and the presumed date of her death.

I know she never got to be my grandmother, and I never got to hear her laugh, or tell a story, or hold me in her arms, or see her face grow wrinkled...

This plaque we place today serves as just a small and silent remembrance of these people and the vivid home which once hosted the origin of my family.

May they all rest in peace and may their memories be a blessing.

*Neta Rimon-Palevsky, Israel*

*Mika Plevsky, Israel*

*Rona Plevsky, Israel*

*Nimrod Plevsky, Israel*

*Hagai Plevsky, Israel*



## Elsa und Ernst Lion

Meine Recherchen zu Verwandten in Wien, den Familien Hertz und Langstein, führten mich zu den Familien Kornblüh und Lion. Ich fragte u. a. bei Daliah Hindler zu dem erzwungenen Suizid von Elsa und Ernst Lion nach. Der Zufall wollte es, dass die Initiative „Steine der Erinnerung“ bereits eine Wandtafel in der Garnisons-gasse 6, 9. Bezirk, Wien für das Jahr 2017 vorgesehen hat, auf der auch dieser beiden gedacht wird.

Elsa Lion war eine geborene Kornblüh. Sie wurde am 14. Februar 1876 in Wien geboren als erstes Kind des Kaufmanns Ludwig Kornblüh und seiner Frau Emilie, geb. Elias. Ihr Vater Ludwig stammte aus Prag, ihre Mutter Emilie aus einer bereits in dritter Generation in Wien ansässigen Fabrikantenfamilie.

Elsa heiratete am 14. Februar 1897 ihren Cousin Ernst Lion, dessen Mutter Marie eine Schwester von Elsas Vater Ludwig Kornblüh war. Ernst Lion wurde am 16. Februar 1867 in Prag geboren und kam als Kaufmann nach Wien.



*Exlibris von Else und Ernst Lion*

Sie hatten zwei Kinder, beide emigrierten nach Frankreich.

Die Eltern versuchten 1939 vergeblich, ihnen nach Frankreich zu folgen.

Auch der Plan, nach England zu emigrieren, misslang.

Ebenso scheiterte der Versuch, ihrer um vier Jahre jüngeren Schwester Lilly Hertz, die bereits seit 1914 in den USA lebte, Elsa und Ernst dorthin zu holen.

Lilly Hertz war in 1. Ehe mit Richard Langstein verheiratet. Sie war Sopranistin und trat in den Jahren vor 1914 unter dem Namen Lilly Dorn-Langstein unter anderem in Wien und Berlin

auf. 1914 heiratete sie in London den aus Frankfurt am Main stammenden Dirigenten des „San Francisco Symphony Orchestra“ Alfred Hertz und zog zu ihm in die Vereinigten Staaten. Auch Briefe an die Präsidentengattin Eleanor Roosevelt, in denen Lilly Hertz und ihr Mann um eine Aufenthaltsgenehmigung für Schwester und Schwager baten, brachten keinen Erfolg, ob durch Ausreiseverbot seitens der Nazis oder aus anderen Gründen ist nicht bekannt.

Briefe von Elsa und Ernst Lion an Lilly Hertz zeigen die Hoffnungslosigkeit, die Vereinsamung,

Isolation und zunehmende Verzweiflung des ohne Verwandte und Kinder in Wien zurückgebliebenen älteren Ehepaares.

Gedemütigt, entrechtet, verfolgt nahmen sich Elsa und Ernst Lion am 15. März 1942 in Wien mit Schlaftabletten das Leben. Ernst starb noch am selben Tag in der Wohnung, Elsa am Folgetag im Spital der IKG Wien.

Sie wurden auf dem Wiener Zentralfriedhof IV.Tor, Gruppe 020d, Reihe 002, Grab 028 beigesetzt.

*Text:*

*Florence Springer Moehl für die Initiative „Steine der Erinnerung“*

# Station 7f

## Hörlgasse 3

### Flora Ehrenzweig

Flora Ehrenzweig was born on 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 1868. She was one of seven children of Hedwig and Jacques Ehrenzweig.

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1890 Flora married the surgeon Ignaz Rosanes. They had two children Heinrich (born 1891) and Charlotte (born 1893). Throughout their married life together Flora and Ignaz lived in Hörlgasse.

Flora was a poet with a keen interest in literature of the Romantic Period. She was gifted in culinary skills and – using her trusted Horel stove – held much appreciated cookery-classes in her home. In later life she helped support herself through her talent in textiles.

Ignaz read medicine at the University of Vienna and was ap-

<b>ZUM GEDENKEN AN DREI JÜDISCHE MENSCHEN, DIE HIER GELEBT HABEN</b>	<b>FLORA ROSANES</b> GEB. EHRENZWEIG 11.1.1868  AM 15.5.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
<b>ALICE STRASSBERG</b> GEB. POLLAK 29.1.1882  AM 18.5.1944 VON THERESIENSTADT NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>BERNHARD STRASSBERG</b> 2.1.1882  AM 1.10.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT UND AM 16.2.1943 ERMORDET

pointed Director of the Crown Princess Stephanie Hospital in 1885 where he worked for the rest of his life. He employed the Austrian Empire's first female doctor, Gabriele Possanner, and was one of the early proponents of the X-ray machine. During WW1 the number of beds at the Hospital tripled to cope with the influx of war casualties. Ignaz was awarded the honorary title of Regierungsrat for his services to medicine.

Ignaz died in 1922, the year his granddaughter Sibylle was born to Charlotte and Walter Pick. Flora commissioned the sculptor Richard Kauffungen to create a

*Flora and Ignaz  
in their flat at  
Hörlgasse.*



memorial stone for Ignaz's grave on Zentralfriedhof which depicts the snake of Hygeia drinking



*Ignaz's headstone, commissioned  
by Flora. Zentralfriedhof, Vienna.*

from a chalice. Hygeia was the daughter of Asclepius, the god of healing. Her name is the source of the word 'hygiene' and she is associated with the prevention of sickness and promotion of good health. The lettering of the tombstone has since weathered or was possibly defaced during Kristallnacht.

In 1938, shortly after Kristallnacht, most of the family obtained exit visas. But Flora chose to remain in Vienna. From here she maintained a prolific and lively correspondence with the

dispersed family right up until the declaration of war.

She continued to live in Vienna under increasingly precarious and threatening conditions. Flora was incarcerated in Theresienstadt from 14th July 1942 until 15<sup>th</sup> May 1944 when she was deported to Auschwitz where she perished.

Flora's three collections of poetry, published by Carl Konegen Press, are held in the Austrian National Library, amongst other institutions. Composed during WW1 they are passionately pacifist in nature.

*Im Schatten des Völkerhasses. Kriegsstimmungsgedichte (In the Shadow of Racial Hatred. War Poems)* (1915)

*Wunden, Narben und rankende Rosen (Wounds, Scars and Rambling Roses)* (1915)

*Lebensfeier* (1917) is a celebration of life.

*This memorial stone is to commemorate Flora Rosanes' life, in memory of her granddaughter Sibylle.*

*It is dedicated by Sibylle's children, Barbara, Nicola and Neil; her grandchildren Kate, Rebecca, Rosie, Gabriel, Max and Oscar; and her great granddaughter Flora.*

HIER WOHNTE	
<b>CHARLOTTE NASCH</b> 18.10.1875 1938 NACH BRÜNN GEFLÜCHTET AM 31.3.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT UND AM 15.12.1943 NACH AUSCHWITZ DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	<b>MORITZ NASCH</b> 3.8.1869 1938 NACH BRÜNN GEFLÜCHTET AM 31.3.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 9.10.1942
<b>MORITZ GUTTMANN</b> 10.11.1878 AM 6.5.1942 NACH MALY TRÖSTINEC DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 11.5.1942	<b>LEOPOLD KLÄGER</b> 1.12.1884 AM 17.5.1942 NACH LUBLIN DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
GEDEMÜTIGT	ENTRECHTET

## Station 9e Türkenstraße 25

### Moritz and Charlotte Nasch

*My dear family, friends, residents of Vienna and citizens of Austria throughout the generations:*

*Here lived Moritz and Charlotte Nasch, our grandparents /great grandparents, Hashem Yikom Damam, with their six children:*

*Hugo, Leo (Leon), Bertha Nasch-Rothberg, Nelly (Irene) Nasch-Preiser, Hanni (Johanna) Nasch-Tomaschoff & Bettina Nasch-Tomaschoff.*

*May all rest in peace forever.*

More than seventy-five years have passed since the Nasch-family was forced to flee Vienna, leaving behind their homes, their property, their near

and dear ones, their friends and business colleagues, for distant lands and an unknown fate. Once known as the city of music, culture and dreams, Vienna had lost its humanity.

Here we stand in front of their last home. We, the descendants of the Nasch-family of Bratislava and the Viennese family Kunstadt, bow our heads in silence and tears, yet with hearts overflowing with pride.

Here we stand today:

Evey Kurlander, daughter of Heinz/Harry Rothberg, son of Leopold Rothberg who per-

*Moritz and  
Charlotte  
Nasch*



ished in Auschwitz and of Bertha Nasch-Rothberg who survived the ordeal of Theresienstadt, and niece of Eva Rothberg who perished in the Kladovo Transport; Gideon Tomaschoff and Naomi Molcho Tomaschoff, the children of Willy Tomaschoff, son of Hanni Nasch-Tomaschoff of Vienna; Gideon's wife, Sylvie, and their son, Noam; And I, Amnon Ram-Gutman, son of Ilse Preiser, only daughter of Nelly Nasch-Preiser of Vienna; My spouse Gisela, mother of my little children, Daniel and Adva.

At long last we have returned to our family's last place of resi-

dence before dispersing to the far corners of the earth. We have returned to the home of Charlotte, Moritz and their children, the home of the family business, Moritz Nasch and Son. This fine company, established in Bratislava, grew and developed in Vienna and expanded to the city of Brno, Czechoslovakia. Charlotte and Moritz found temporary refuge in Brno, as evidenced by the memorial plaques at our feet, but like many others were sent to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. Moritz died there; Charlotte managed to survive long enough only to be sent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau exter-



mination camp in Poland, to be murdered there.

Behind us lies the Schlickplatz, a modest park where my mother, Ilse, used to sit on a bench with Grandfather Moritz and read to him from the newspaper after he had lost one of his eyes in an accident. And just beyond is the tobacco shop where Ilse used to buy newspapers and tobacco for her beloved grandfather.

*From my mother's memoirs:*

*My grandfather Moritz was born into a religious family in Slovakia, in the city of Bratislava. His father was an upholsterer by trade. As a young man, grandfather moved to Vienna and opened a successful business, trading in upholstery materials. During one of his trips from Vienna to Bratislava in his private car, driven by Uncle Leo, there was a terrible accident, as a result of which my grandfather lost his left eye and socket. The loss of one eye and weakness in the other made reading difficult for my grandfather, and so it was my duty to escort him around and to read him the daily newspaper.*

*I was very close to my grandfather. I adored him, and over time he took the place of my father, who was often away from home.*

*With my grandmother's and grandfather's consent, I began my studies at the Kriegerheim School for Early Education. I never completed my studies because the Nazis annexed Austria and many Jews fled.*

*With the help of Alfred Tomasschoff, Hanni's husband, (Naomi's and Gideon's grandfather), I managed to flee to their city of Brno.*

*Sometime later, my grandfather and grandmother also made it to Brno and I went to live with them. It was my responsibility to keep house for them.*

*On the 12th of March, 1939, I left for Palestine on an illegal transport. It was the last time I ever saw my grandparents.*

Such was "The World of Yesterday," to borrow a title from renowned Viennese author Stefan Zweig. That world no longer exists, and for those of us born and

raised in other lands, it is something of an imaginary place, a part of our heritage forever intangible despite our deep and abiding longing.

Moritz and Charlotte, we still tell your story, though we were not a part of it. Our love and affection for you, your legacy, the world you lived in and all that you were, know no bounds.

Before a short trip to Prague in January of this year, I spoke with Willy Tomaschoff. He suggested I visit the Maisel Synagogue where your names are engraved on the wall, right next to each other. Just two names out of the 84,000 Jews of Bohemia and Moravia who perished in the Holocaust.

Until then, I hadn't imagined that you were memorialized in any way, in any place.

And that brings me to these "stumbling" stones. Thanks to them, we reconnect to the lost legacy of our forebears, we give voice to an echoing, heart-wrenching wail and de-

clare for all the world: "In the face of that great and terrible wrong, in spite of the isolation, the uprooting, and the wounds that will never heal, the chain has not been broken!"

We are here to tell the entire world that your descendants stand here and proudly carry your names and your memory forward. The State of Israel, the long unattainable dream of all the world's Jews, the state envisioned by Vienna's son Theodor Herzl, became a reality nearly 70 years ago!

We have a Jewish state, we have a mighty army to defend Jews from those who wish to harm them. Ours is a thriving economy, our scientists are at the forefront of their fields, we enjoy the highest standard of medicine, a promising future, and, of course, many, many dreams.

For a short time, just a heartbeat in the scheme of things, the world thought you lost the terrible battle, the battle for survival, for life and continuity. But that moment passed.

From beyond the pillars of  
smoke, the rivers of blood, and  
the infinite suffering, we, the  
Jewish people, have come this  
far, and today we say aloud:

**כל עוד בלבב פנימה**

**נפש יהודי הומייה**

**לעולם לא תאבד תקוותנו**

**התקווה בת שנות אלפיים**

**נמשיך להיות עם חופשי בארצנו**

**ארץ ציון ירושלים**

As long as deep within the heart  
A Jewish soul yearns...

We will never lose our hopes  
Our hopes of two thousand  
years

We will remain a free people in  
our land,  
The land of Zion and Jerusalem.

*Erinnern wir uns*

Beim Aufgang der Sonne  
und bei ihrem Untergang  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Beim Wehen des Windes  
und in der Kälte des Winters  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Beim Öffnen der Knospen  
und in der Wärme des Sommers  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Beim Rauschen der Blätter  
und in der Schönheit des  
Herbstes

erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Zu Beginn des Jahres  
und wenn es zu Ende geht,  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Wenn wir müde sind  
und Kraft brauchen,  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Wenn wir verloren sind  
und krank in unserem Herzen  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
Wenn wir Freude erleben,  
die wir so gern teilen würden  
erinnern wir uns an sie;  
So lange wir leben,  
werden sie auch leben,  
denn sie sind nun ein Teil von  
uns,  
wenn wir uns an sie erinnern.

*Aus einem Jüdischen Gebetbuch*

## Station 9f

### Porzellangasse 22

**Bertha Pollak, Gisela Pollak,  
Elisabeth (Pollak) Schneider  
and Jakob Schneider**

Our great grandmother Bertha, and our great aunts Gisela and Elisabeth (and her husband, Jakob Schneider) were transported to Theresienstadt where they died during the Shoah/Holocaust.

We have learned the following about the people who were murdered in the Shoah/Holocaust:

*Our Great Grandmother, Frau Bertha (Oma) Pollak (nee-Zeisel),* was born in Radostin, Moravia, Czech Republic. She married Karl Pollak, probably in Rojetein, where their first two children (Otto and Josef) were born.

*Our Great Aunt, Frau Gisela Pollak,* third child, was born in Rojetein, Moravia, Czech Republic 1882.

STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN	
<b>BERTHA POLLAK</b> GEB. ZEISEL 10.1.1858 AM 10.9.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 10.2.1943	<b>GISELA POLLAK</b> 6.1.1882 AM 10.9.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 18.2.1943
<b>ELISABETH SCHNEIDER</b> GEB. POLLAK 6.6.1890 AM 24.9.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 23.2.1944	<b>JAKOB SCHNEIDER</b> 25.12.1874 AM 24.9.1942 NACH THERESIENSTADT DEPORTIERT ERMORDET AM 16.6.1943



*Our Great Grandmother, Frau Bertha (Oma) Pollak (nee-Zeisel)*

**ZUM GEDENKEN AN  
45 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN  
UND MÄNNER UND ZWEI  
KINDER, DIE IN DIESEM  
HAUS BEENGT IN  
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN  
GELEBT HABEN.  
EHE SIE VON DEN NAZIS  
DEPORTIERT UND  
ERMORDET WURDEN**



*Great Aunt Elisabeth  
(Liesl) Schneider  
(nee-Pollak)*

*Our Great Aunt, Frau Elisabeth  
(Liesl) Schneider (nee-Pollak),  
fourth child, was born in Vienna  
1890.*

*The husband of Great Aunt Elisa-  
beth, Herr Jakob Schneider, was  
born in Vienna 1874.*



*Great Aunt Elisabeth (Liesl)  
Schneider (nee-Pollak)*

Before and after the Nazis entered Vienna, Bertha (Zeisel) Pollak and her daughters (our great aunts) Gisela and Elisabeth were living in the Alsergrund district of Vienna at Porzellangasse 22/10, next to the famous Leopoldstadt Jewish district.

Our grandparents Otto and Gertrude Therese (Trude) Pollak (nee-Schwarzwald), lived nearby, about three km away in the Schottenfeld-quarter of the Neubau-district, where also their children (our connections), daughter Anni and son Manfred, lived at Westbahnstrasse 27.

We have a couple of our grandmother Trude's letters to son Manfred (emigrated to the USA)

with passages mentioning visits from Oma (Bertha) and the Aunts (Gisela, known also as Gisa, and Elisabeth, known as Liesl):

Wien, 16.VI.39

My Beloved Fredl,  
How shall I describe the indescribable joy upon receiving your dear picture, I thank you so wholeheartedly, again and again I stand and look into your eyes. You look very good, Thank God. Your face is full and beautiful and your hair is a little different in parts/style. Is it not?  
*Oma & the aunts did not want to part from the picture and hope for a smaller one (for them to have), .....so even eight days later, there is no less joy.*

— —

*Aunt Liesl has knitted him (Uzi – first grandchild, son of Anni) a lovely sweater and we sent him the blue velvet trousers that you wore when you were 2 1/2 years old. Anni is sure to enjoy.*

Vienna, 10.VII.39

"My dear Fredl!  
Today your awaited dear letter of the 27th arrived and I am happy to know that you're healthy, thank God, despite the heat that you are not used to. Also here, it is very hot, but thunderstorms bring cooling! From here there is little new, we are all healthy. Yesterday Oma & Aunts were with us, we celebrated Uzi's 2nd birthday and of course thought much of you. Did you write to Anni?"

— —

Mein innigst geliebter Fredl! Wien 16. VI. 39  
Wie soll ich Dir die grosse unbeschreibliche Freude schildern  
beim Empfang Deines lieben Bildes ich danke Dir so  
von ganzem Herzen oft u. oft stehe ich u. schreie in Deiner  
Augen G.L. siehst Du sehr gut aus hast Du wohl  
dich so schön volles Gesicht u. bissel veränderten Haar  
schneit nicht wahr? Oma u. die Tanten wollten es  
garnicht hergeben u. hoffen auf ein kleineres also  
wenn auch 8 Tage später so ist die Freude nicht  
kleiner noch dann kann Igestern Dein l. Briefst. b.  
mit dir so vielen Besichten



Mein lieber Fredl!  
 Wien, 10. VII. 38  
 So wie erwartet kam heut Mittag Dein l. B. i. 27. n. ein  
 & glücklich zu wissen dass Du G.L. gesund bist, trotz der  
 ungewohnten Hitze auch hier ist es sehr heiss aber Gesünder  
 bringen Abkühlung! Von hier gibt es keine Kuren wir sind  
 alle gesund gestern waren bura m. Tanten bei uns wir  
 haben Usi's 2. Geburtstag gefeiert u selbstverständlich eben  
 viel an Dich gedacht hast Du Anni geschrieben? wir  
 bekommen oft Post von ihr es ist ihr sehr he...

"..... so you do not have to think about bus fare or traveling that way. Aunt Liesl will write to you about it."

— —

"So, you would like to know who the 20 guests were (at the silver anniversary): ...

From Irene a beautiful wine-red handbag, from Aunt Liesl such very beautiful pearl earrings for me, so that the holes in my ears do not close up, for Papa 2 beautiful ties, yes from Uncle Adolf and Aunt wonderful....."

Also, we have a letter from Anni (Pollak) Welish-Shai (emigrated to Palestine/Israel) to her brother Fred Pollak from 1977:

— —

"I went through all these letters from Ilona and found that Liesl's husband was called Jack, named

Jakub and so he is also in the Theresienstadt book, you will find him on the same page as Tante Liesl."

"Carla also wrote that Tante Liesl and Jack were sent to Auschwitz. I keep thinking of Tante Gisa, being deported at about my present age. She was always suffering from bad health, and Oma 84!"

We found some good pictures of the three women. We have attached individual pictures of two of them and three good group pictures.

As for great aunt Elisabeth's husband, we have no picture, but the following information:

Jakob Schneider was born in 1874 in Vienna, the first of four children born to Leopold and Rosa Schneider. Jakob Schneider married Gisela Marchfield





*The Pollak family, from left: Bertha, Trude Pollak, Gisela, Manfred Pollak, Otto Pollak, Elisabeth*



*The ladies Pollak with close friends, from left: Gisela, friend, Bertha, friend, Elisabeth*



*The Pollak family, from left: Manfred Pollak, Otto Pollak, Trude Pollak, Gisela, Bertha and Elisabeth*

in 1903 and together they had three sons, Leopold (1905), Franz Josef (1908) and Karl (1913). Gisela died in 1936. Jakob married our great aunt Elisabeth Pollak in 1939.

We have no pictures of Jakob Schneider. We believe this is because our connections to this man are through the niece, Anni, and nephew, Fred Pollak, who left Wien before Elisabeth mar-

ried him (Anni left in 1936 and Fred left in 1938). Any connection that Elisabeth Pollak had with Jakob Schneider, appears to have started after they left; although, they heard about the connection, because of the few lines in Anni's letter (quoted above) to her brother Fred in the USA (in 1977 when they were preparing search material for Yad VaShem, etc.).



they were transported in 9/1942 to Theresienstadt concentration camp. Great aunt Elisabeth and Jakob apparently stayed in the apartment on Porzellangasse until they were transported later in 9/1942 to Theresienstadt concentration camp.

This is all that we know about these people, may they be resting in peace.

*Uzi Welish, Lesley (Pollak) Woodfin, Victor A. Pollak, Rafael Shai, R. Timothy Pollak*

February 24, 2017

## Bertha, Gisela, Elisabeth and Jakob OUR MOTIVATION

We are related to Bertha (Zeisel) Pollak and her two daughters, our great aunts Gisela and Elisabeth through the daughter and son of Bertha's son, Otto Pollak, her first child.

We are Uzi Welish (Israel), Lesley (Pollak) Woodfin (Israel/USA),

**Todesfallanzeige**

Name des Verstorbenen: **Schneider** Vorname: **Jakob** Israel Tr. Nr.: **11/11-11**

Geboren am: **1876** in **Wien** Beruf: **Handwerker** Religion: **Jude** Gestorben am: **1940** in **Wien**

Wohnort: **Wien** Zimmer Nr.: **102**

Stempel: **1940** Sterbestunde: **17:00** Sterbeort: **Theresienstadt**

Gasse Ortschaft (Gebäude, Zimmer): **U. Y. 102** Krankheitsgeschichte:

in Theresienstadt: **Elisabeth Schneider** Gestorben: **1940**

in Privathaus:

Tag der letzten Beobachtung: **1940** Ort der letzten Beobachtung: **Theresienstadt** Zahl d. Kinder: **2**

Art der Todesursache: **Lebensalter** No. d. Todesursache: **10000** Ansprache: **Polakman, Wolfgang**

Krankheit (in Blockschiff): **Lebensalter**

Todesursache (in Blockschiff): **Lebensalter**

Theresienstadt, am **1940** Der Untersucher: **Dr. H. H. H.** Der Arzt: **Dr. H. H. H.**

(c) holocaust.cz

*Death certificate for Jakob Schneider*

Rafael Shai (Israel), Victor A. Pollak (USA) and R. Timothy Pollak, (USA), children of the generation that left Vienna and survived the Shoah/Holocaust, Anni (Pollak) Welisch-Shai who emigrated to Israel, and Manfred J. Pollak who emigrated to the USA.

We knew almost nothing about Bertha, her two daughters or Elisabeth's husband.

Probably the first to be aware of these people was the oldest among us, Uzi Welish of Kibbutz Ginosar in Israel, the oldest son of Anni (Pollak) Welisch-Shai.

In December 1982, Kibbutz Ginosar built a memorial sculpture to commemorate those that had fallen during the Shoah/Holocaust. Uzi's mother Anni Pollak-Welish-Shai had 3 names put on the sculpture for the Pollak family, her mother Trude, her father Otto and someone named Bertha. Uzi did not know who this was. He did not know and being a busy young man he never asked his mother about her. It was not until we decided to place remembrance stones for our grandmother and grandfather, Trude and Otto, that we began to look for more information and in so doing discovered that we had more relatives that were killed in the Shoah/Holocaust, one of which was Bertha.

We all have seen the names of the Shoah/Holocaust memorial, but other than assuming that Bertha was a relative, we did not think more about it. Not until Vic-

tor Pollak took a trip to Europe and first learned of the existence of the Stolpersteine in Germany. He remembers as follows:

*My wife Betsy and I were in Regensburg, Germany, on a cold, rainy December day in 2012 during a walking tour. Our guide was a young thirty-something graduate student who led us through the town. Among the many sites she showed us was a monument depicting a burned down synagogue in the town square. She explained that the synagogue was burned during the Middle Ages, had later been rebuilt, only to be destroyed in the early Twentieth Century and finally closed in the years leading to WWII.*

*We then moved to a nearby sidewalk facing the town square on which there stands a typical several-story mixed-use building. Embedded in the sidewalk in front of the building were a couple of small brass plaques bearing the names and birthdates of former residents of the building who were killed or deported during WWII, including their respective dates of death or deportation. She told*

*us they were called Stolpersteine, placed by descendants of those holocaust victims, with consent of the current owners or residents of those buildings. They are deliberately positioned to figuratively cause passers-by to stumble over them as a reminder that those innocent Jewish, gypsy and other minority and infirm citizens who resided in those buildings were uprooted and killed due to antisemitism. Those victims should never be forgotten. If they are, the Shoah/Holocaust could be repeated in the future.*

*I inquired whether the Austrians were doing the same and our guide answered that she thought similar programs were underway in some European countries. I decided to pursue the prospect of memorializing our holocaust victim ancestors in the same way, because of the combined effect that the Stolpersteine stones had on me and my fellow travelers.*

Victor started the process and Lesley has continued it, with help from our Israeli cousins.

In researching for the remembrance stones we learned more and have found some good photographs of Oma and her two daughters. We have found some of the Death Certificates from Theresienstadt and their lives have been recorded in our family tree on Geni.com.

Among the documents Uzi Welish has from his mother, Anni, he found copies of the "Pages of Testimony" that his mother and her brother Manfred J. Pollak submitted in 1977 to Yad Vashem – another way to remember.

*In the USA: Victor A. Pollak and R. Timothy Pollak*

*In Israel: Uzi Welish, Lesley (Pollak) Woodfin, Rafael Shai*

February 24, 2017



STELLVERTRETEND FÜR DIE VIELEN	
<b>LEOPOLDINE FISCHER</b> 26.9.1876	<b>MARIE FISCHER</b> 4.6.1872
AM 19.2.1941 NACH KIELCE DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	AM 19.2.1941 NACH KIELCE DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET
<b>FRIEDRICH GEHORSAM</b> 30.5.1870	<b>REGINA GEHORSAM</b> 2.8.1875
AM 12.3.1941 NACH LAGOW – OPATOW DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET	AM 12.3.1941 NACH LAGOW – OPATOW DEPORTIERT IM HOLOCAUST ERMORDET

**ZUM GEDENKEN AN  
53 JÜDISCHE FRAUEN  
UND MÄNNER, DIE IN  
DIESEM HAUS BEENGT IN  
SAMMELWOHNUNGEN  
GELEBT HABEN.  
EHE SIE VON DEN NAZIS  
DEPORTIERT UND  
ERMORDET WURDEN**

## Station 14b

### Nussdorfer Straße 4

#### Marie und Leopoldine („Poldy“) Fischer

Dieser Stein ist der Erinnerung an unsere Großtanten Marie und Leopoldine („Poldy“) Fischer gewidmet, die hier einige Zeit bis zu ihrer Deportation gewohnt haben. Sie waren jüngere Schwestern unseres Großvaters Karl Fischer. Ihre Eltern waren Jakob Fischer und seine Frau Antonie, geb. Oplatek.

Die jüdische Kaufmannsfamilie hatte zunächst in Brandeis a. d. Elbe gelebt, war dann aber nach Wien gezogen. Das Ehepaar hatte 11 Kinder, von denen nach unserer Kenntnis 1939 noch acht lebten.

Nach der Angliederung Österreichs ans 3. Reich und der Verschärfung der Repressalien gegen Juden bestand für die Fischers akute Lebensgefahr. Die Brüder Emanuel und Gustav, sowie Schwester Charlotte konnten sich durch die Flucht nach



*Das Bild zeigt das Ehepaar Jakob und Antonie Fischer mit neun Kindern und der Großmutter. Ganz vorn in der Mitte Poldy und in der mittleren Reihe rechts Marie. Hinten rechts Karl, unser Großvater.*

Brasilien bzw. Argentinien retten. Das Schicksal der Brüder Ludwig und Joseph ist uns nicht bekannt.

Karl, unser Großvater, überlebte den Holocaust dank der Fügung glücklicher Umstände. Er hatte nach dem Dienst als Einjährig-Freiwilliger ein Studium an der Technischen Hochschule Wien absolviert und danach als Industriechemiker/Färberei-

Techniker gearbeitet. Über die Stationen Fulnek (Mähren) und Mühlheim am Main kam er 1906 in die Tuchstadt Forst (Lausitz). Bereits in Fulnek hatte er Paula Czermak kennengelernt und 1984 geheiratet. Aus der Ehe gingen die beiden Töchter Rosa und Margarete, unsere Mütter, hervor. Paula stammte aus einer katholischen Familie und so wurden die Töchter auch katholisch getauft. Nach nazistischer





*Antonie Fischer, geb. Oplatek, mit sechs ihrer Kinder, einem Schwiegersohn und drei Enkeln. Links neben der Mutter: Marie und Poldy*

Lesart waren Paula und auch die Männer, die Rosa und Margarete später heirateten, arischer Abstammung. 1938 zogen die Großeltern in das von Tochter Rosa und Mann gebaute Eigenheim. Der Großvater, inzwischen 74 Jahre alt, lebte dort äußerst zurückgezogen und entging der Deportation wahrscheinlich durch den Schutz der Familie, und möglicherweise gab es in Forst auch weniger fanatische örtliche Machthaber.

Marie und Poldy, die unverheiratet geblieben waren und in

Wien ein Kurzwarengeschäft betrieben, wurden Opfer der angelaufenen Judenvernichtungsmaschinerie.

Schon 1938 wurden Marie und Poldy aus ihrer Wohnung vertrieben, in der sie 17 Jahre lang gewohnt hatten. Es folgten weitere Vertreibungen, die sie schließlich in die Nussdorfer Str. 4 führten. 1941 begannen in Wien die Deportationen der jüdischen Einwohnerschaft, und mit dem zweiten Transport wurden auch die inzwischen 69 bzw. 65 Jahre alten Schwestern zusammen mit

Marie und  
Poldy Fischer



1005 Wiener Juden nach Kielce in Ostpolen deportiert, wo sie zunächst bei den dort lebenden Juden einquartiert wurden.

Einige Tage vor Abfahrt des Transports erhielt die jüdische Gemeinde von der Zentralstelle für jüdische Auswanderung in Wien die Liste der für die Deportation vorgesehenen Juden. Der Gemeinde wurde aufgetragen, den Betroffenen den Transporttermin mitzuteilen und dafür zu sorgen, dass sie sich in der als Sammellager genutzten jüdischen Schule in der Castellezgasse 35 einfanden. Im Sammellager wurden sie zuvor von

Angehörigen der Zentralstelle für jüdische Auswanderung Wien zur Unterzeichnung eines Dokuments gezwungen, in dem sie bestätigten, Wien aus freiem Willen zu verlassen und ihren Besitz den staatlichen Stellen zu übergeben.

*(Quelle: Das Internationale Institut für Holocaust-Forschung)*

Marie und Leopoldine (Poldy) Fischer wurden mit dem zweiten Transport nach Kielce gebracht.

Der zweite Transport aus Wien fuhr am 19. Februar 1941 vom Aspangbahnhof ins polnische



*Polen, Kielce. –  
Jüdisches Viertel  
(später: Ghetto  
Kielce)  
(Quelle:  
Bundesarchiv,  
Bild 121-0310)*

Kielce. Auf diesem Transport waren 1.005 Juden, 308 von ihnen waren über 61 Jahre alt, das Durchschnittsalter lag bei 51. Nach ihrer Ankunft in Kielce wurden die Deportierten in den Häusern ortsansässiger Juden untergebracht. Am 31. März wurde in Kielce ein Ghetto errichtet, in das auch die aus Wien deportierten Juden zu ziehen hatte. In der Zeit vom 20. bis 24. August 1942 wurde das Ghetto aufgelöst. Seine zirka 21.000 Bewohner wurden in Vernichtungslagern ermordet, zirka 2.000 arbeitsfähige Juden in Arbeitslager nach Blizyn, Pionki und Skarzysko-Kamienna verschleppt. Im August 1944 transportierte man die restlichen Verbliebenen nach

Auschwitz. Eine kleine Gruppe wurde von Auschwitz nach Buchenwald gebracht.

Nur 18 der mit diesem Transport von Wien nach Kielce deportierten Juden haben den Holocaust überlebt.<sup>1</sup>

Marie und Poldy waren jedoch schon im Frühjahr 1942 in Kielce umgekommen.

Das belegen Dokumente von Yad Vashem und des Dokumentationsarchivs des österreichischen Widerstands DÖW: Bis auf

<sup>1</sup> Transport 2 von Wien nach Kielce. [db.yadvashem.org/deportation](http://db.yadvashem.org/deportation)

Quelle:	Namentliche Erfassung der österreichischen Holocaustopfer, Dokumentationsarchiv des österreichischen Widerstandes, Wien
Nachname:	Fischer
Vorname:	Marie
Geburtsdatum:	04/06/1872
משוחזר-תאריך לידה:	04/06/1872
Aufenthaltort während des Krieges:	Wien, Wien, Österreich
Adresse während des Krieges:	WIEN 9, NUSSDORFERSTRASSE 4
Details zum Transport:	Transport 2 von Wien, Österreich nach Kielce, Kielce, Polen am 19/02/1941
קישור לשילוח:	Transport 2 von Wien, Österreich nach Kielce, Kielce, Polen am 19/02/1941
Häftlingsnummer während des Transports:	478
Art des Materials:	Liste von ermordeten oesterreichischen Juden
Status des Opfers zum Kriegsende:	Ermordet

Vornamen und Geburtsdatum gleichlautend auch für Leopoldine Fischer.

Persönlich haben wir Marie und Poldy nicht gekannt. Zum Zeitpunkt der Deportation waren wir erst 8 bzw. 6 Jahre alt. Wir wissen aber, dass unsere Mütter eine enge Bindung zu den Tanten hatten und sie in Wien besuchten. Rosa wohnte als junges Mädchen ein halbes Jahr dort und half ihnen im Geschäft.

Bis zuletzt standen unsere Mütter im Briefwechsel mit ihnen und schickten noch regelmäßig Päckchen nach Kielce.

Das Schicksal der Tanten hat unsere Familien sehr bewegt, deshalb liegt uns die heutige Ehrung sehr am Herzen.

*Wolfgang Drunk und  
Ursula Werner*

# STATIONEN der ERINNERUNG ALSERGRUND

● STATIONEN der ERINNERUNG ● 2017 NEU

◆ GEDENKSTÄTTE

■ PROJEKT SERVITENGASSE



### **Broschüre 1**

<i>Station</i>	<i>Adresse</i>
1	Ingenhoussgasse 4
2	Grundlgasse 5
3	Röbergasse 18
4	Porzellangasse 49a
5a	Seegasse 9: ehem. jüd. Altersheim
5b	Seegasse 9: alter jüd. Friedhof
6	Grünentorgasse 26
7	Servitengasse 6
8	Servitengasse 11/Ecke Grünentorgasse
9	Grünentorgasse 19
10	Müllnergasse 21
11	Liechtensteinstraße 2
12	Liechtensteinstraße 73
13	Nussdorfer Straße 77
14	Schlagergasse 4

### **Broschüre 2**

<i>Station</i>	<i>Adresse</i>
1a	Gussenbauergasse 2
2a	Rotenlöwengasse 17
4a	Glasergerasse 4a
4b	Glasergerasse 18
5c	Seegasse 20–22
6a	Röbergasse 4
7a	Berggasse 14
9a	Grünentorgasse 8
11a	Kolingasse 10
11b	Kolingasse 9
11c	Kolingasse 13
11d	Hörlgasse 9
12a	Fechtergasse 19
12b	Liechtensteinstraße 95

12c	Liechtensteinstraße 56
12d	Alserbachstraße 11
13a	Dreihackengasse 10
13b	Löblichgasse 6
13c	Canisiusgasse 20
15	Tendlergasse 11
15a	Tendlergasse 3

### **Broschüre 3**

<i>Station</i>	<i>Adresse</i>
2b	Rotenlöwengasse 8
4c	Porzellangasse 43
5d	Porzellangasse 36
7b	Währingerstraße 3
9a	Grünentorgasse 8
9b	Schlickgasse 6
9c	Türkenstraße 21
9d	Türkenstraße 15
9e	Schwarzspanierstr. 15
12e	Nussdorfer Straße 26
14a	Nussdorfer Straße 14
16	Alserstraße 16
17	Alserstraße 28
18	Mariannengasse 15
19	Mariannengasse 23
20	Lazarettgasse 29

### **Broschüre 4**

<i>Station</i>	<i>Adresse</i>
<b>5e</b>	<b>Porzellangasse 38</b>
<b>6b</b>	<b>Hahngasse 24–26</b>
<b>6c</b>	<b>Mosergasse 11</b>
<b>7d</b>	<b>Garnisonsgasse 6</b>
<b>7f</b>	<b>Hörlgasse 3</b>
<b>9e</b>	<b>Türkenstraße 25</b>
<b>9f</b>	<b>Porzellangasse 22</b>
<b>14b</b>	<b>Nussdorfer Straße 4</b>



# Orte der Deportation

Alle Informationen beim Dokumentationsarchiv des Österreichischen Widerstands unter [www.doew.at](http://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 4000 Juden dorthin deportiert. Niemand von ihnen überlebte.

## **Kielce**

Ort in Polen im Distrikt Krakau

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.

## **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 5000 österreichische Juden nach Lodz deportiert. Sehr viele Menschen starben an den unerträglichen Lebensbedingungen. Im Jahre 1942 wurden die meisten Überlebenden in Chelmo 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 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**

Ghetto, 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 1000 Personen dorthin deportiert. Es wurden zunächst alte Personen und Kinder nach Sobibor deportiert und ermordet, zuletzt auch die „arbeitsfähigen“ Juden.

# Informationen

## **Verein Steine der Erinnerung**

[www.steinedererinnerung.net](http://www.steinedererinnerung.net)

1030 Wien, Neulinggasse 13/12

Haben Sie

- Interesse an einer Patenschaft für eigene Angehörige (oder für Menschen ohne Angehörige) oder möchten Sie spenden?
- Fragen zu unserem Projekt?
- Interesse, in unseren Verteiler aufgenommen zu werden?
- Interesse, eine Publikation zu bestellen?

Dann besuchen Sie unsere Homepage oder schreiben Sie uns.

### *Finanzielle Unterstützung*

Patenschaften für die Steine der Erinnerung: € 150,-

### *Überweisungen:*

Name des Kontos:

Steine der Erinnerung

Bank: Erste Bank

IBAN: AT432011128641890700

BIC: GIBAATWW

## Broschüren

*Broschüren im Alsergrund*

Begleitbroschüren 1–3 € 6,-

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

## Führungen

*„Weg der Erinnerung durch die Leopoldstadt“*

Walter Juraschek, staatlich  
geprüfter Fremdenführer  
[walter.juraschek@chello.at](mailto:walter.juraschek@chello.at),  
Mobil: 0699/ 1925 15 24

## 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/>

## 10 Jahre Steine, die bewegen

*Vor zwölf Jahren 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. Anfragen aus aller Welt und – wie der Start zu einem Aufbruch – eine rege Beteiligung der Bevölkerung.

Das Buch enthält dem entsprechend außer dem Text, der von Elisabeth Ben David-Hindler und anderen Vereinsmitgliedern verfasst wurde, eine große Anzahl an Beiträgen von Menschen, die das Projekt mitgetragen haben.

Der Weg von der ersten Anfrage zur Eröffnungsveranstaltung wird ebenso beschrieben wie die technische Herstellung der Steine, die finanzielle Basis und die große Wirkung, die das Projekt entfaltet hat. Hat es doch viele Menschen dazu veranlasst, Steine vor ihren Häusern zu initiieren und die Gründung von Vereinen in anderen Bezirken in die Wege geleitet.

Der Text ist in einer gefälligen Sprache verfasst und mit sehr vielen Fotos und Tabellen, aber auch mit Anekdoten gewürzt.

