STOLPERSTEIN-VERLEGUNG

October 27–30, 2026, in Frankfurt am Main
to commemorate the victims of National Socialism



Biographies

for the Stolpersteine unveilings on Tuesday, October 27, 2026

10:00	Innenstadt	Rechneigrabenstr. 5	Nathan **Weisberg**; Zlata Laura, Rosa, Martha, Paula. and Sigmund **Korn**
10:45	Innenstadt	Neue Mainzer Str. 58	Fritz, Lucie, and Doris **Nathan**
11:30	Nordend	Sternstr. 12	Moritz Moses and Sophie **Prager**
12:10	Nordend	Fichardstr. 53	Meyer Martin, Selma, Walter, and Paul **Oppenheimer**
15:05	Nordend	Fürstenbergerstr. 169	Meier Martin, Laura, Martha, and Vera **Adler**
15:50	Ginnheim	Höhenblick 34	Dr. Werner, Charlotte, Gerhard, and Wolfgang **Thormann**
16:40	Dornbusch	Reinhardstr. 8	Paul **Lissa**

Latest schedule updates and biographies from the other days can be found at
https://www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de/en/news

Schedule for the other three days of Stolpersteine ceremonies:

Wednesday, Oktober 28, 2026 – Stolperstein installations

10:00	Bockenheim	Am Leonhardsbrunn 16	Dr. Adolf, Anna, Gerhard Ludwig, and Irene Eleanor **Salomon**
10:40	Bockenheim	Hans-Sachs-Straße 3-5	Georg Gerson, Charlotte, Erich, Else, Grete, and Ferdinand **Freudenstein**
11:30	Westend	Unterlindau 17	Max, Grete and Heinz **Gross**
13:25	Westend	Wolfsgangstraße 98	Simon, Rosalie and Hilde **Weinmann**
14:20	Westend	Im Trutz Frankfurt 32	Dr. Fritz, Margarete and Thea **Rosenberg**

17:30 Reception "**Evening of Encounter**" for the victims' descendants and invited guests

Thursday, Oktober 29, 2026 – Stolperstein installations

10:00	Ostend	Uhlandstraße 48	Menasche Moritz, Hinda Helene, Hermann, Isidor Leib, Rosa, Ida, Berta, Paul, and Josef **Kampler**
10:50	Nordend	Eckenheimer Landstraße 9	Simon, Sara und Iwan Yitshak **Cohn**; Charlotte, and Alfred **Idstein**
11:35	Nordend	Eckenheimer Landstraße 30	Elias Aron and Jetta Necha **Ehrlich**
12:25	Nordend	Baumweg 32 (formerly 38)	Isidor, Lina, Herbert and Norma **van Elkan**; Minna **Levy**
14:30	Nordend	Hermesweg 14	David, Johanna, Arthur, Lilli, and Hulda **Gans**; Erna **Aretz**; Klara **Seligmann**
15:15	Ostend	Sandweg 42	Josef, Jeanette and Ludwig **Sondheimer**
16:00	Nordend	Sternstraße 33	Louis, Fanny, Auguste, Carl, Hedwig, and Rosy **Grebenau**

Friday, Oktober 30, 2026 – Stolperstein unveilings

10:00	Nordend	Friedberger Landstr. 120	Erich, Amalie, Edith, Kurt, Lucie, and Helga **Sommerfeld**
10:40	Westend	Niedenau 72	Jakob, Nora, Julius, Martin, Theo, and Herbert **Stern**
11:20	Westend	Telemannstraße 12	Adele **Knobloch**
11:55	Westend	Friedrichstraße 36	Julius and Clara **Grünebaum**
14:15	Sachsenhausen	Brückenstraße 42	Hans **Reinhardt**
15:00	Oberrad	Offenbacher Landstr. 295	Renate Ulrike, Dr. Julius, Karoline, Rosa, Lothar, and Jeanette "Lina" **Wolf**

Innenstadt
Rechneigrabenstraße 5

Zlata Laura Korn
Date of Birth: 3.5.1898
„Polenaktion“ October 1938
Deportation: 11.11.1941 Ghetto Minsk
Date of Death: unknown

Nathan Weisberg
Date of Birth: 10.10.1898
„Schutzhaft“ 14.10.1939 F-Preungesheim,
13.7.1940 KZ Dachau,
16.8.1940 KZ Natzweiler, KZ Mauthausen
Date of Death: 2.5.1941

Rosa Korn
Date of Birth: 18.9.1923
2 days detention October 1938
Escape: 26.7.1939 England (Kindertransport)

Martha Korn
Date of Birth: 13.8.1925
„Polenaktion“ October 1938
Escape: 26.7.1939 England (Kindertransport)

Paula Korn
Date of Birth: 13.2.1930
„Polenaktion“ October 1938
Escape: 26.7.1939 England (Kindertransport)

Sigmund Korn
Date of Birth: 13.2.1930
„Polenaktion“ October 1938
Escape: 26.7.1939 England (Kindertransport)

Nathan Weisberg was born in Ostrowiec, Poland, the son of Hersch Chaim Weisberg and his wife Bluma, née Grossmann. He had seven siblings. Nothing is known about his childhood and youth. Before World War I, he moved to Frankfurt with his father and five siblings.

Nathan Weisberg was a shoemaker by trade. In 1923, he married Zlata Laura Korn, a seamstress, in a Jewish ceremony. She was born in Oswiecim (Auschwitz), then part of Austro-Hungarian Galicia and now in Poland. She had four siblings: Max, Sarah, Mendel, and Daniel Korn. The couple had been denied a civil marriage due to a lack of necessary documents.

The couple had four children: Rosa (born in 1923), Martha (1925), and the twins Paula (Hebrew: Pesel or “Tzipora”) and Sigmund (1930). Starting in 1925, the family was registered as living on the third floor of the corner building at Rechneigrabenstraße 5, at the corner of Schützenstraße 14. At times, the building housed the Niederhofheim Synagogue, a Russian-Polish prayer hall, and a Jewish soup kitchen. The family was Orthodox Jewish.



Nathan Weisberg, Martha, Rosa (in the back), Paula, Siggy (in the front), and Zlata Korn.

The four children of the Weisberg-Korn family attended the Jewish elementary school on Röderbergweg.

Nathan Weisberg ran a workshop as a self-employed shoemaker with two journeymen on Schüppengasse in the Old Town. Laura Korn worked as a self-employed dressmaker.

After the Nazis came to power in 1933, Nathan Weisberg was forced to close his business on Schüppengasse. The building superintendent provided him with a room at Rechneigrabenstraße 5 to use as a workshop, where he worked primarily for Jewish customers until he was forced to close his business in early 1936.

After 1945, his daughter Rosa recounted what happened in October 1938: "...one morning I was picked up by the police, since all Polish citizens were being expelled at that time. But I was locked up in jail because I didn't have a Polish passport. When I came home (after two days), my father told me that my mother and siblings had been sent to Poland. After a few days, they all came back because the Poles didn't want to take anyone in anymore."

After the Jewish owner was forced to sell the house in late 1938, the Weisberg-Korn family was compelled to move to Kämmereistraße 11, which at that time ran between Mainstraße and Schützenstraße. The house served as a "ghetto house," where Jews who were being persecuted were forcibly housed.

In July 1939, the children—Rosa, Martha, Paula, and Sigmund—were able to escape to England on a Kindertransport organized by the Refugee Children's Movement. They traveled by train to Amsterdam and from there by ship to Liverpool and on to London.

In the early morning hours of October 14, 1939, Nathan Weisberg was taken into "Schutzhaft" ("protective custody") and brought to the police jail in Frankfurt-Preungesheim. On June 24, 1940, Laura Korn wrote to the prison doctor: "During the last consultation, I noticed that my husband has become very frail. […] For this reason, I would be very grateful if you could arrange for my husband to be transferred to the hospital." The prison doctor noted: "He is fit to remain in custody."

Three weeks later, Nathan Weisberg was deported to the Dachau concentration camp and, from there, via the Natzweiler concentration camp, to the Mauthausen camp, where he was murdered on May 2, 1941.

On November 11, 1941, his wife, Laura Korn, along with more than 1,000 other Jews, was driven through the streets of Frankfurt in broad daylight toward the Großmarkthalle and from there deported to the Minsk ghetto. The date and place of her death are unknown.

After arriving in England, the siblings were separated.

Paula stayed with the Mewes family in London for about 10 months; they made it possible for her to attend synagogue. She then lived in Essex for five years and attended school in Cambridge. She worked for three years as a secretary for the Refugee Children's Movement before emigrating to Canada in 1948. In 1956, she married Sol Feigelsohn (1925–2002) and had two children. She died on January 25, 2006, in Toronto.

Her twin brother, Sigmund "Ziggy," also emigrated from England to Canada. He married Gertrude Israel (1928–2018) and had two children. He died on September 28, 2006, in Toronto.

Rosa Korn moved to Baltimore, Maryland, in the United States. She married Meir Nathan Schweid Nord (1919–1993), who was originally from Ludwigshafen, and they had three children together. Rosa Nord died in Baltimore on April 17, 1993.

Her sister Martha remained in England, where she married Nathan Sherman. After his death in 1987, she remarried and died as Martha Spring on November 9, 1997, in Westminster.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Adrian Feigelsohn, son of Paula Feigelsohn (née Korn). They were funded by Dieter Nittel, Robert Gilcher, Manfred Gütlein, Waltraud and Peter Hofmann, Mada Mevissen, and Elisabeth Thielicke.

Research: Robert Gilcher

Innenstadt
Neue Mainzer Straße 58

Fritz Nathan
Date of Birth: 14.4.1891
Escape: September 1938 Holland,
February 1940 USA

Lucie Nathan, née Mayer
Date of Birth: 5.7.1897
Escape: September 1938 Holland,
February 1940 USA

Doris Nathan
Date of Birth: 18.7.1935
Escape: September 1938 Holland,
February 1940 USA

Fritz Nathan was born in 1891 in Bingen am Rhein as the first of two sons of wine merchant Jacob Nathan and his wife Sara, née Freiberg. In 1909, he earned his high school diploma at the Oster-Gymnasium in Mainz. Between 1909 and 1914, he studied architecture at the technical universities in Darmstadt and Munich. From 1915 to 1918, he served as a soldier in World War I. Two years after the war ended, he was appointed government architect.

Fritz Nathan, however, decided against pursuing a career as a construction official and moved to Berlin, where he was involved in the planning of the memorial cemetery for fallen Jewish soldiers in Berlin-Weißensee. In 1922, he was elected to the Association of German Architects (BDA).



Fritz Nathan, 1929.

At the end of that same year, Fritz Nathan moved to Frankfurt and founded his own architectural firm in early 1923. In Frankfurt, he quickly made a name for himself in the construction of villas. On several occasions, he worked as an architect for department stores on behalf of Hermann Wronker. For Wronker's department store on the Zeil, he not only designed a modern shopping arcade but also a commercial kitchen and a restaurant capable of seating 1,500 people. Fritz Nathan also achieved success with large-scale corporate new construction projects in Hanau, Mannheim, Heidelberg, Stuttgart, and Luxembourg.



Lucie Nathan.

On December 22, 1927, Fritz Nathan and Lucie Mayer were married. She was the only child of Moritz Mayer, a merchant, and his wife Ida, née Hertz, of Cochem. Moritz and Ida Mayer held prominent positions in the Jewish community in Cochem.

With the New Jewish Cemetery on Eckenheimer Landstraße in Frankfurt (completed in 1929), Fritz Nathan created a masterpiece of sacred architecture. Over a four-year period of planning and construction, he designed an imposing cubic complex for the funeral hall and mortuary, along with the main entrance and administrative offices, featuring clinker brick facades, colonnades, and pilaster strips.

Even while the cemetery was still being planned, additional commissions for Jewish institutions in Frankfurt followed, including the expansion of the Jewish Home Economics School at Königswarter Straße 20 (1928), the children's home at Hans-Thoma-Straße 24 (1928–30), and the Israelite Hospital at Röderbergweg 97 (1930–31). Fritz Nathan was a member of the Hermann Cohen Lodge of B'nai B'rith Frankfurt.



Lucie Nathan with her daughter Doris in Frankfurt, 1935

In 1933, the Bund Deutscher Architekten was brought into line with Nazi ideology, and Fritz Nathan could no longer work independently. He was left with only small projects for Jewish clients.

In 1935, their daughter Doris was born, and in September 1938, after paying the "Jewish Property Tax," "Reich Emigration Tax," "Relocation Tax," and so on, the family of three fled to Amsterdam, Holland. There they waited for visas to the United States. On January 22, 1940, they were able to flee from Rotterdam to New York aboard the passenger ship "Veendam," where they arrived on February 5, 1940.

Fritz Nathan was able to establish his own architectural firm in New York City, and his reputation quickly made him the architect of choice for Jewish immigrant communities.

Fritz Nathan died in 1960.

Lucie Nathan is described by her daughter Doris as warm, empathetic, loving, and caring: “She was charming, had excellent taste, and a wonderful laugh. She would have liked to study medicine, but as a girl, she wasn’t given that opportunity. She worked as an interior designer.” Lucie Nathan died in 1971.



Doris Nathan.

Doris Nathan grew up in Washington Heights, Manhattan. After attending Hunter High School and Barnard College, she earned a master’s degree in architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She worked as an architect and real estate developer. In the 1990s, she trained as a mediator and has been working as a mediator and arbitrator ever since. In 1987, she married Thomas C. Friedman, who has two sons, Joshua and Andrew. The couple now lives in East Hampton, NY, and in New York City.

Fritz Nathan never returned to Frankfurt. In 1965, Lucie and Doris Nathan visited Frankfurt, Bingen, and Cochem and toured many of the buildings designed by Fritz Nathan.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Andreas Schenk (Mannheim). They were funded by Bund Deutscher Architekten, BDA Hessen e.V..

Research: Robert Gilcher

Nordend
Sternstraße 12

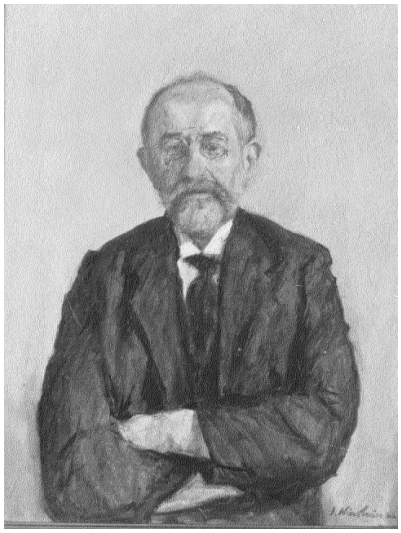
Moritz Moses (Moshe) Prager
Date of Birth: 30.12.1862
Humiliated, deprived of rights
Date of Death: 11.6.1938 in Frankfurt

Sophie Prager,née. Nußbaum
Date of Birth: 10.10.1869
Escape: December 1938 South Africa

Moritz Prager was born in Sulzbach-Rosenberg, Bavaria. His parents were the merchant Lämmlein (later Lehmann) Asher Prager (1835–1893), a commodities trader who came from Mittelweilersbach near Forchheim, and Karoline (Gella), née Anker (1823–1906). He had a brother named Leopold. Moritz Prager presumably moved to Frankfurt in 1890 (first mentioned in the 1891 address book). He lived at Ostendstraße 58, 3rd floor, and was a co-owner of the firm “Philipp Pessel & Co.,” an emery goods factory located at Allerheiligenstraße 38 and, starting in 1895, at Allerheiligenstraße 40.

On August 14, 1891, Moritz Prager and Sophie Nussbaum were married in Frankfurt am Main. As evidenced by a collection of letters from their engagement period that was discovered later, it was a marriage of love.

Sophie Nußbaum was born in Rhina, in the Hersfeld-Rothenburg district, the daughter of Baruch Nußbaum (1836–1899) of Rhina and Saarchen Nußbaum, née Katz (1838–1911) of Mandern, in the Waldeck district of Hesse. Sophie had three brothers: David, born in 1871, who dealt in old coins at a well-known numismatic shop in Frankfurt; Jakob, born in 1873, who became a well-known painter; and Benni, born in 1874, a merchant and watch dealer.



Moritz Prager. Painting by Jakob Nussbaum.



Sophie Prager, née Nussbaum. Painting by Jakob Nussbaum.

In 1883, Sophie had moved with her family to Frankfurt, where her father ran a "liqueur factory" at Rechneigrabenstraße 12. The family lived at Reichneistraße 6 (which at the time ran parallel to Rechneigrabenstraße). Later, Baruch Nussbaum purchased the house at Kleine Obermainstraße 21, where the family's apartment and the company "Baruch Nussbaum Spirituosen & Salz." were located on the first and second floors. The business included a brandy distillery, a salt production facility, and a spirits wholesale operation.



Fritz und Irene Prager.

In 1892, Moritz and Sophie Prager's first son, Alfred, was born; he died shortly after birth. On January 2, 1894, their daughter Frieda was born, followed by their daughter Walentine (Wallie) on March 4, 1895, and their daughter Rosa (Rosy) on September 18, 1896. By then, the Prager family was living at Ostendstraße 28 II. Siegfried, known as Fritz (later Fred), the second son, was born on September 7, 1899. That same year, Sophie's father, Baruch Nußbaum, died in Frankfurt. In 1900 and 1906, two more daughters, Irene and Caroline, were born.

According to the recollections of their granddaughter, Wallentine Hammerschlag, the Prager family was very Orthodox and belonged to the synagogue on Börneplatz, which had been built for the Orthodox wing of the Jewish Community. Sophie and Moritz maintained a kosher household and observed religious laws, holidays, and Shabbat. Moritz is said to have even shut down the furnaces at his sandpaper factory for the entire weekend to observe Shabbat, accepting the resulting financial losses. He was also active in the Hevra Kadisha, the Jewish community's burial society.

Moritz and Sophie Prager provided all their children - including their daughters - with a good education: From 1900 to 1910, Frieda attended the Realschule of the Israelitische Religionsgesellschaft at Tiergarten and subsequently the Schillerschule Realgymnasium (high school), where she earned her Abitur. In 1914, she completed one semester at the School of Dentistry at the University of Heidelberg and continued her studies at the newly founded University of Frankfurt am Main, where she graduated on March 27, 1918. Her sister Irene later followed in her footsteps and also became a dentist. Walentina and, presumably, Caroline completed commercial training to become office clerks.

During World War I, Moritz Prager served in the 1st Replacement Battalion of the Infantry Regiments' Replacement Units attached to the 21st Bavarian Infantry Regiment (Fürth).

During the war, the family lived at Kleine Obermainstraße 21 I., the home of the late Nußbaum in-laws. The “Pessler & Co.” emery factory was now operating as a G.m.b.H. in partnership with “Naxos-Schmirgelwerk.” In 1918, the Prager family moved to Fichtestraße 18, 2nd floor.

On September 3, 1918, the eldest daughter, Frieda, married August Katz, a Jewish merchant from Kassel who was 13 years her senior and a distant relative of Sophie Prager; he had been living in Fauresmith, South Africa, since the age of 15. While visiting his family in Kassel, he was caught off guard by the outbreak of World War I and, because of his British citizenship, was interned for three years as an “enemy alien.” The wedding was celebrated at the Hotel Frankfurter Hof. The young couple initially remained in Kassel due to the ongoing war and its aftermath, and before emigrating, they also lived with the Prager family at Fichtestraße 18.



Tillie Katz, Moritz, Fritz Prager, Robert Katz, Sophie Prager, Wally Katz (from left to right) in Frankfurt in 1928

On January 8, 1919, their artistically and musically talented daughter Walentina died of the Spanish flu at the Jewish Hospital at the age of just 23. A few months later, on July 23, 1919, Moritz and Sophie Prager’s first grandchild, Mathilde (Tillie)—the daughter of Frieda and Moritz Katz—was born in Frankfurt. On April 30, 1920, Frieda emigrated to South Africa with her husband and their baby. In Fauresmith, they met August’s siblings, who had continued to run the firm “Wertheim & Co.” during his long absence.

In Frankfurt, Moritz Prager had by then become the sole owner of the company “Naxos-Schmirgelwerk Philipp Pessel & Co.” at 40 Allerheiligenstraße. His son Fritz worked there as a traveling salesman, visiting customers throughout Europe, while his daughter Caroline handled the day-to-day operations of her father’s company, taking on an increasingly greater role as Moritz grew older.

In 1925, their daughter Irene also married Willi Eilbott, a Jewish doctor, in Frankfurt. Moritz and Sophie Prager had three more grandchildren: Dolf (Ben) in 1927, Peter in 1932, and Eva in 1935.



Fritz, Carrie, Sophie, Irene, Moritz, Rosa Prager.

In May 1927, their daughter Rosa married Ludwig Moritz, a Jewish businessman from Gelnhausen, in Frankfurt. (In 2018, Stolpersteine were laid at Fichtestraße 7 in honor of the Moritz family.) Frieda traveled from South Africa with her family to attend the wedding, and the grandparents, Moritz and Sophie, saw their grandsons Walter (Wally) and Robert, born in 1921 and 1923, respectively—for the first time. The Katz family stayed in Germany for a year. Rosa moved with her husband to live near her parents, first to Julius-Heymann-Straße 6 and later to Fichtestraße 7. They had three daughters, grandchildren of Moritz and Sophie, who were born in Frankfurt: Walentina in 1929, Ellen in 1931 (who died young of leukemia), and Hannah in 1937. In 1932, Moritz and Sofie Prager moved to Sternstraße 12.

After the Nazis came to power, Moritz and Sophie's children gradually left Germany. In 1935, Fritz visited his sister in South Africa and did not return to Germany, but remained in other European countries. He now called himself Fred. In 1936, their daughter Caroline (Carry) also left Germany and went to Paris, where she was later joined by her partner, Rita Philippsthal, who had been born in Berlin in 1913.

In 1936, Moritz and Sophie moved to Friedberger Anlage 16, the home of a Jewish owner.

In 1937, they traveled to Switzerland to say goodbye to their son Fritz (Fred) before he set off again for Cape Town to open an abrasives factory, "SA Emory Works," in the suburb of Mowbray. In recent years, he had made a fortune in other European countries by developing a new technique for grinding and polishing granite and marble, which provided him with the financial foundation for this venture.

In 1937, Moritz and Sophie moved into the nursing home for the elderly at the Jewish Hospital at Bornheimer Landwehr 85 and Gagernstraße 36, respectively. There, 75-year-old Moritz died on June 11, 1938. The last address of the widowed Sophie Prager in Frankfurt before her escape to South Africa was Eschersheimer Landstraße 92.

With a visa for South Africa that Frieda had obtained for her, Sophie Prager was able to flee to Cape Town in December 1938 to join her eldest daughter.

In February 1939, Sophie's three-year-old granddaughter Eva, the daughter of Irene and Willi Eilbott, died of diphtheria in Frankfurt because, as a Jew, she was unable to receive adequate medical treatment. Shortly thereafter, Irene fled with her family, first to Paris to stay with her sister Caroline, then to England in May, and from there to the United States in March 1940.

Frieda had arranged for her sister Rosa and her family to travel to Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). On April 21, 1939, Rosa and Ludwig Moritz, along with their two children, Wally and Hanna, boarded the passenger ship Pretoria in Hamburg, bound for Cape Town. There, in the spring

of 1939, Sophie Prager experienced one last large family gathering with her daughters Frieda and Rosa, their husbands and children, as well as her son Fritz (Fred). Afterward, the Moritz family traveled by train on to Bulawayo in Southern Rhodesia, which became their new home.

After the hardships of the years of persecution and their escape, Sophie Prager lived in Cape Town for only a few more months. She died there at the age of 70 on November 17, 1939. Her grave is located at Maitland Cemetery in Cape Town.

All of Moritz and Sophie Prager's children—including Caroline and her partner, who were able to go into hiding during the German occupation—survived the Holocaust. Their descendants now live in South Africa, the United States, and Israel.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by the great-grandchildren Mark and Lennard Hammerschlag (South Africa and the U.S.) and by Dr. Michael Hayse (Stockton University). They were funded by Kathrin Buxmann-Karst and Mathias Krummheuer.

Research: Renate Hebauf

Nordend
Fichardstraße 53

Meyer Martin Oppenheimer
Date of Birth: 1.1.1867
Escape: 1939 Spain, USA

Selma Oppenheimer, née Berger
Date of Birth: 30.9.1876
Escape: 1939 Spain, USA

Walter Oppenheimer
Date of Birth: 6.9.1904
Escape: 1936 USA

Paul Oppenheimer
Date of Birth: 13.10.1906
Escape: 1938 Uruguay, 1941 USA

Meyer Martin Oppenheimer was born in Fränkisch-Crumbach in the Odenwald district, the son of Isaak Oppenheimer II (1837–1892) and Karoline (Klara), née Frohmann (1838–1900), from Überau in the Darmstadt-Dieburg district. His father ran a textile store in Fränkisch-Crumbach. As a child, Martin received private lessons in French. After attending elementary school, he completed an apprenticeship at the Frankfurt-based company "S. D. Zunz & Sohn, Manufakturwaren- und Hemdenfabrik" at Fahrgasse 109. He then worked for several years as a traveling sales representative for a major textile wholesale firm in Frankfurt, traveling on its behalf to the Saar region, the Palatinate, Luxembourg, and Alsace-Lorraine.



Martin Oppenheimer
Passport photo 1939.

On May 23, 1902, he married Selma Berger, a native of Frankfurt, the daughter of Ignatz Berger (1843–1892) and Helene, née Lissa (1840–1911). Selma came from a wealthy family and had seven siblings, including two—Leo and Johanna—who died as infants before Selma was born in 1876. The siblings she grew up with were: Philipp Berger (Frankfurt), Leonie (married name Lorch, Mainz), Mathilde (married name Wormser, Frankfurt), Jenny (married name Morgenthau, Karlsruhe), and Alfred (Frankfurt).



Selma Oppenheimer, Passport photo 1939.

Her father, who had died as early as 1892, ran the company "Ignatz Berger OHG" together with his brother-in-law, Ferdinand Lissa. This well-known company, which dealt in raw materials, was headquartered at Große Friedberger Straße 13–17 and operated a factory in Oberursel am Taunus ("rag sorting plant"), which produced, among other things, mattress wool, cotton batting, and shredded wool from used clothing and fabric scraps. The company was run by the sons Philipp and Alfred Berger until its forced sale in 1937, and later by Alfred Berger and Ferdinand Lissa's son Paul Lissa (Selma's cousin). Paul Lissa was one of 168 Jewish men who were deported to the Dachau concentration camp on November 16, 1938, during the November Pogrom. He was murdered there on December 3, 1938. Since October 2026, a Stolperstein at Reinhardtstraße 8 has commemorated him.

Selma brought a substantial dowry into the marriage. The young couple moved to Humboldtstraße 9, where Martin founded his own agency business that same year. In later years, he became chairman of the welfare committee of the Verein Frankfurter Handelsvertreter e. V. (Frankfurt Commercial Agents Association). In 1904, the year his first son, Walter, was born, Martin Oppenheimer purchased the house at Fichardstraße 53. However, the family continued to live at Humboldtstraße 9 for the time being. In 1906, their second son, Paul, was born there. In 1907, the family moved to Bäckerweg 9, and in 1911 to the ground-floor apartment at Gaußstraße 20. Selma's mother, the widow Helene Berger, was living nearby by then, in the ground-floor apartment at Mauerweg 22. According to Paul Oppenheimer's biographical notes, the Berger siblings and their families often gathered for Shabbat evenings, taking turns hosting at one of their apartments.

After elementary school, the older son, Walter, attended the Städtische Handelslehranstalt (later Merton-Realschule) on Junghofstraße and completed a commercial apprenticeship.

The younger son, Paul, attended the Philanthropin elementary school in Frankfurt starting at Easter 1913. Starting at Easter 1915, his parents sent him to a children's home that Claire Weimersheimer, an educator with a reformist approach, had opened in 1912 in her villa in Herrlingen near Ulm for children with learning difficulties. Paul stayed at the children's home for about 1 ½ years and attended the local village school there.

In 1916, the Oppenheimer family moved into a six-room apartment on the first floor of their own four-story building at Fichardstraße 53 (the building no longer stands today). The agency's offices were set up on the ground floor, and the basement housed a distribution warehouse for three of the major factories represented by the Oppenheimer Agency. An office clerk was hired,

as well as a housekeeper for the family household. Martin purchased his own car for client visits and had a garage built for it. The remaining two floors of the building housed rental apartments. After completing his apprenticeship, Walter began working in his father's business.



Fichardstraße 53: Paul and Walter in the upper window

Paul Oppenheimer returned to Frankfurt in 1917 and attended the school at the P. Klibansky boarding house—a Jewish boys' boarding school founded in 1895 by teacher Pincus Klibansky at Trutz 47—until 1919. He then enrolled in the same commercial school his brother had attended. It had since been renamed Merton Realschule. There, on September 8, 1921, he completed his "Einjähriges", comparable to the "Mittlere Reife" (intermediate school-leaving certificate). According to his daughter Celia, Paul played the violin and wanted to become a musician. His father, however, arranged for him to take an apprenticeship at the "H. & F. Adler" workwear factory in Frankfurt. There, from October 1, 1921, to August 31, 1923, he completed a commercial apprenticeship and attended the Commercial Vocational School I of the City of Frankfurt am Main, from which he graduated on March 31, 1924. Due to his father's illness, he joined his father's textile agency, "M. Oppenheimer," as early as September 1, 1923. In 1924, after his father had recovered, he completed a three-month internship at various plants of the company "Schlesische Textilwerke Methner & Frahne A. G.," in Landeshut, Silesia—a branch of his father's company. He subsequently worked as a sales representative and traveling salesman for Martin's firm. His customer visits by car took him beyond Hesse and Hesse-Nassau to Northern Baden and the Rhine Palatinate. In his free time, he took private lessons in French and English, but he was also very athletic. As a member of the Jewish Gymnastics and Sports Club Bar Kochba Frankfurt, he was active in the track and field department and, as a report in the club's newsletter from 1925 shows, was one of the best runners. He also enjoyed hiking frequently, went swimming, and skied in the winter.



Martin Oppenheimer in his office, 1930's.

In August 1924, 19-year-old Walter moved to Chicago to live with his uncle Frederick Oppenheimer, his father's brother, to work at Frederick's meat-packing company. Since business in Frankfurt was booming again in 1929, his family convinced him to return to Frankfurt and rejoin the family business, with the prospect of eventually taking over the company together with his brother Paul.



Walter Oppenheimer.

However, after the Nazis came to power and as a result of anti-Jewish laws and boycotts, the family's business and financial situation deteriorated so severely that Walter decided to return to Chicago. On June 3, 1936, he boarded the "SS Aquitania" in Southampton and arrived in New York on June 9, 1936. Paul, too, had been forced to give up his job in his father's business at the end of August 1935 and wanted to follow his brother to the United States. To improve his chances of emigrating, he retrained as a welder and lived off his family's support until he emigrated.

On March 31, 1937, Walter married Lina Hirschsprung, a German immigrant born on August 5, 1900, in Obererlenbach in the Hochtaunus district, in New York. They lived in Chicago, where their son Fred was born on April 26, 1938.



Paul Oppenheimer, Passport photo from an ID card in Uruguay

Since Paul Oppenheimer was assigned a very high immigration number that would have meant a wait of several years for a U.S. visa, he decided to flee to Uruguay first to wait there for a visa to the United States. He left Germany around mid-October 1938 and, after a six-week voyage on a merchant ship, arrived in Montevideo on November 20, 1938. Since he was initially unable to find work there, he lived off financial support from his brother Walter in the U.S. until March 1939. After that, he made ends meet by working in factories and eventually found a decent job as a welder at a company in Montevideo that manufactured metal containers.

On October 1, 1938, Martin Oppenheimer lost his agency and his means of livelihood as a result of Nazi legislation. During the November pogroms, he was spared arrest and deportation due to his advanced age of 71. In December 1938, he was forced to sell his house at Fichardstraße 53 below market value to a Frankfurt couple, Director Ferdinand Michel and Adele (née Müller). Following this "Aryanization" of the house, the Jewish tenants received notice to vacate and were forced to move into a house owned by a Jewish landlord. Selma's inherited share of the large commercial building at Große Friedbergerstraße 13–17 and the house at Schäfergasse 14 also had to be sold below market value.

Martin and Selma Oppenheimer tried in vain to obtain a visa for the United States. With the help of Martin's brother Max Oppenheimer and his wife Henriette from Fränkisch-Crumbach, they received a transit visa for Venezuela. There, they planned to wait with his brother and his wife for a visa to the United States. On August 12, 1939, they boarded the German merchant ship "SS Orizaba" in Hamburg, bound for La Guairo, Venezuela. As the outbreak of World War II—triggered by the planned invasion of Poland—was imminent, Hitler ordered all German ships to return to German ports. Since the captain could no longer make this return due to the British blockade, he set course for the neutral Spanish Atlantic port of Vigo. According to Paul Oppenheimer's biographical notes, all the Jewish passengers had threatened to jump overboard if

they were forced to return to Germany, where they faced the threat of being sent to a concentration camp.

After a lengthy stay in Vigo, the Oppenheimer brothers and their wives were finally able to board the Spanish steamship "SS Marques de Comilla" on December 14, 1939, bound for New York, where they arrived on January 2, 1940. They traveled on to Chicago, where Martin and Selma were reunited with their son Walter after years of separation and saw their grandson, 20-month-old Fred, for the first time. They initially stayed with Walter and his family. The three brothers—Martin, Max, and Frederick Oppenheimer—were also reunited in Chicago.


Arrive Here Safe From Nazi Terror

REFU

Two Brothers to Meet Third After 53 Years

BY EDWARD D. SOKOL

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Oppenheimer, refugees from Germany, arrive in Chicago after months of flight and greet their grandson, Freddie, for the first time.

Newspaper clipping, Chicago 1942 - Martin and Selma Oppenheimer with grandson Fred.

Martin Oppenheimer, now 73 years old, returned to work in Chicago as a sales representative for a Chicago sausage factory. After the United States entered World War II, he and Selma took on piecework.

Paul also finally received his visa for the United States at the end of February 1941 and was able to board the "SS Brazil" in Buenos Aires on April 18, 1941, bound for New York. Arriving there on May 5, 1941, he traveled to Chicago to join his parents. He first found work as a welder for the Army and Navy and later at the "Superior Sleeprite Defense Plant" in Chicago.

On April 1, 1943, Paul was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri for basic training. Before being deployed to Europe, he married Zelda Violet Callner (born November 5, 1915, in Chicago) there on July 25, 1943.

As a member of the 19th Army Corps of Engineers, he traveled through France to Algeria with a convoy delivering equipment to the Free French Forces, where he received his U.S. naturalization certificate. He was then deployed to Italy as an engineer to build bridges and roads and to clear mines. After developing arthritis (he was one of the oldest soldiers), he was transferred to administrative duties in Italy for the remainder of the war. Since he spoke French well, he subsequently served for eleven months as a translator at an Army employment office in Marseille, interviewing French civilians to place them in various Army jobs and translating letters and military documents for Allied headquarters.

In early 1944, Paul received news of his brother Walter's death. On January 26, 1944, Walter was driving to deliver meat when he was killed in an accident caused by a drunk driver. He was only 39 years old.

After Paul returned to the United States, he was honorably discharged from the Army as a corporal in November 1945. He then trained as an upholsterer and worked as an upholsterer and furniture restorer, and later as a restorer of antique furniture.

Paul and his wife Zelda had two daughters: Celia, born in 1948, and Tina, born in 1953.

Martin Oppenheimer died on September 11, 1951, at the age of 84; Selma died on November 19, 1956, at the age of 80; both passed away in Chicago.

His daughter Celia recalled that her father, Paul, had maintained contact with his numerous relatives scattered across the globe throughout the rest of his life in the United States, whether through letters or visits. He took courses in history and biology, read and wrote extensively, and, driven by his love of nature, was also active as a local environmental activist. He remained a passionate swimmer and hiker well into his old age.

Paul Oppenheimer died on April 13, 1993, at the age of 86; his 80-year-old wife, Zelda Oppenheimer, died on January 5, 1996. Both are buried in Hillside, Cook County, Illinois.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Celia Francis (Los Gatos, CA, USA), the daughter of Paul Oppenheimer. They were funded by Karl Pfaff, Victor Pfaff, Mona Wikhäll, and the Heinrich-Kleyer-Schule in Frankfurt am Main.

Research: Renate Hebauf

Nordend
Fürstenbergerstraße 169

Meier Adler
Date of Birth: 15.2.1885
Detention: 1938 KZ Buchenwald
Deportation: Mai 1942 Transit-Ghetto Izbica
Date of Death: unknown

Laura Adler, née Levi
Date of Birth: 8.12.1891
Deportation: Mai 1942 Transit-Ghetto Izbica
Date of Death: unknown

Martha Adler
Date of Birth: 7.9.1919
Escape: 1939 England, 1940 USA

Vera Adler
Date of Birth: 21.11.1922
Escape: 1938 England

Meier Adler was born in Lieblos near Gelnhausen. His parents were Jacob and Dina Adler (née Sichel). His wife, Laura Adler, was from Frankfurt. She was the daughter of the merchant Jacob Levi and his wife Bertha (née Hermann). They were married in Frankfurt and had two daughters. Starting in 1926, Martha first attended preschool and then the Lyzeum at the Philanthropin, the Reformed girls' high school of the Jewish community. Vera attended the Holzhausen School until she was expelled in 1933 due to anti-Semitism. The family lived at Fürstenbergerstraße 169 from 1921 to 1937.

Meier Adler operated a wine wholesale business under the name "M. Adler & Co", initially at Alte Gasse 71 from 1922 to 1926 and then at Bleichstraße 28 until 1938. His wife worked there as an authorized signatory. On December 31, 1938, the company was deregistered.

The daughters, Martha and Vera, were forced to leave school without a diploma. Meier Adler was arrested during the November Pogrom of 1938, deported to the Buchenwald concentration camp, and released at the end of December. The family planned to flee to the United States via England, but they were unable to do so together. Only the two daughters were able to flee to England with financial help from their parents. Martha had to work there as a domestic helper to support herself and, with the help of relatives, was able to travel to the United States in 1940, where she relied on the support of her relatives. Vera also managed to flee to England. She, too, initially worked there as a domestic helper.


Martha Adler, Passport photo.


Vera Adler, Passport photo.

The parents, who had remained in Germany, were forced to move out of their apartment. They moved to Melemstraße 10 and, starting in 1940, lived at Fichardstraße 21.

Meier Adler was forced to work as a gardener at the “August Fichter” company. According to the "Devisenakte" dated November 25, 1940, they were granted an allowance of 200 Reichsmark. They stated that they were receiving support from relatives. The last entry in the file, dated June 9, 1942, read “evacuated,” which, in the coded language of the Nazi bureaucracy, meant deportation to a concentration or extermination camp. Their remaining assets were confiscated on September 17 for the benefit of the Reich. It is likely that both were deported on May 8, 1942, to the Izbica transit camp. Here, people were forced to wait, often for an indefinite period, before being deported to the extermination camps. To date, no lists of names have been found for this transport; only a notification from the police chief to the mayor of Frankfurt stating that 930 Frankfurt Jews had been deported.

Vera Adler received a handwritten postcard at her address in England on August 4, 1942, along with a 25-word telegram via the Red Cross from the Izbica transit ghetto, signed by both her parents. They listed the sender’s address as Izbica 9 W Block VI 1019.

“Dearest Vera, we are well. We hope you and Martha are well. If possible, send us something or have Toni send it. Write immediately. Love and kisses, Papa and Mutti.”

Martha Adler married Murray Lavender in the United States on October 24, 1942. The couple had two sons. Martha Lavender died on October 19, 1990.

Vera Adler remained in England and married Henry Carr in January 1948. The couple had two children.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Martha's son, Wayne Lavender (New York City), and Vera's son, Martin Carr (Cardiff, Wales). They were funded by Katia Fabienne Tonelle Gurlitt.

Research: Heidi Stögbauer

Ginnheim
Höhenblick 34

Werner Thormann
Date of Birth: 8.1.1894
Escape: March 1933 France
July 1940 Spain, Portugal, USA

Charlotte Thormann, née Forschner
Date of Birth: 20.10.1891
Escape: July 1933 France,
November 1941 USA

Gerhard Thormann
Date of Birth: 30.9.1922
Escape: July 1933 France,
November 1941 USA

Wolfgang Thormann
Date of Birth: 28.11.1924
Escape: July 1933 France,
November 1941 USA

Werner Thormann was born in Frankfurt as the youngest of eight children of Johann Thormann, a Catholic high school teacher, and his wife Katharina, née Geisel.

Werner Thormann attended the Lessing Gymnasium (High School) and, beginning in 1912, studied German, Romance languages, and history, first at the University of Munich and later in Frankfurt. During World War I, he served as a soldier on the Western Front and the Eastern Front.

From 1920 to 1923, Werner Thormann worked as a dramaturg at various theaters in Frankfurt.



Werner Thormann with son Wolfgang in front of the house Höhenblick 34, about 1932.

On March 18, 1922, he married Charlotte Forschner, the daughter of Dr. Ludwig Forschner and his wife Maria (née Ziegler), who was born in Schwalenberg near Detmold. The Forschner family later took up residence in Bad Nauheim. Until her marriage to Werner Thormann, Charlotte Forschner worked as a trainee teacher and librarian at the elementary school in Bad Nauheim.

At the end of September 1922, their son Gerhard was born. Their son Wolfgang was born two years later during the family's approximately one-year stay in Augsburg. Back in Frankfurt, the family initially lived on Wormser Straße in Sachsenhausen before moving into their house in the newly built Höhenblick neighborhood at the end of 1927.

Starting in 1923, with a one-year hiatus, Werner Thormann served as an editor at the left-wing Catholic newspaper *Rhein-Mainische Volkszeitung*, published by Friedrich Dessauer, initially as a feature writer and theater critic. Starting in 1925,

he increasingly wrote political articles with a focus on foreign policy. He also worked as secretary to former Reich Chancellor Joseph Wirth and, beginning in 1929, served as editor-in-chief and publisher of the republican weekly *Deutsche Republik*. The philosopher Ludwig Marcuse called Werner Thormann "one of the most amiable, intelligent, and at the same time most modest people."

On the occasion of the celebration of the Weimar Republic's constitution on August 11, 1932, at Frankfurt's Paulskirche, Werner Thormann—as the keynote speaker appointed by the city—urged the audience to defend the Weimar Republic. Referring to the middle class, he said: "There is certainly no class in Europe that is more indifferent to political life, more passive toward the state, and more cowardly in the face of fait accompli—and consequently always the fait accompli created by others—a class that, to put it bluntly, lacks any sense of civic duty."

Immediately after the transfer of power to the National Socialists in March 1933, Werner Thormann fled to France and arranged for the escape of his wife Charlotte and their two sons, Gerhard and Wolfgang. Gerhard had to leave the sixth grade at Lessing Gymnasium in the middle of the school year, while Wolfgang had to interrupt his schooling in the third grade at Diesterweg Elementary School. By July 1933, the family had been reunited in France.

There, Werner Thormann initially worked as a correspondent for the Viennese evening newspapers "Echo" and "Telegraf." From 1938 to 1940, he succeeded Arthur Koestler as editor-in-chief of the exile magazine "Die Zukunft," and from 1939 to 1940, he worked as a broadcaster and editor for the "Deutscher Freiheitssender," a clandestine anti-fascist radio station.

Gerhard—who now called himself Gerard—and his son Wolfgang initially attended a private school in Fontenay-sous-Bois on the eastern outskirts of Paris. In mid-1934, both transferred to the École Albert de Mun, a Catholic-run private school.

According to the *Reichsanzeiger* of April 28, 1937, the family was stripped of its citizenship and had been stateless ever since.

After the German Wehrmacht invaded, Werner Thormann fled via Spain and Portugal to New York in July 1940.

His wife Charlotte and their two sons initially sought refuge in Avignon in the non-occupied zone, where Gerard was able to earn his French high school diploma in June 1941 at College St. Joseph, a Jesuit-run school. Wolfgang had to interrupt his high school education at St. Joseph's College because, in November 1941, Charlotte Thormann fled with her two sons from Marseille via Lisbon to New York, where they arrived on the "Serpa Pinto" on December 26, 1941, and the family was reunited.



Gerard C. Thormann, about 1951. Notre-Dame College Yearbook.

In the United States, Werner Ernest Thormann produced radio programs for CBS intended for an audience in Germany. His wife, Charlotte, worked as a librarian. In March 1943, both sons, Gerard Charles and Wolfgang, were drafted into the U.S. military. Beginning in the mid-1950s, both Gerard and Wolfgang worked as academics at universities and colleges in the United States. Werner Thormann earned a Ph.D. in Modern German Literature with a focus on the Romantic period.

Gerard C. Thormann married Shirley J. Mazzotta (1932–2020) in New York in 1953. His brother Wolfgang married Monique Dubourg, born in 1929, in France, also in 1953.

Their father, Werner Thormann, died on May 23, 1947, at the age of 53. Charlotte Thormann died on May 27, 1990; Gerard C. Thormann died on January 11, 2011, in Rockland County, New York; and his brother Wolfgang died in 2015 in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Antje Krüger (Baltimore, MD, USA) and Dominique Thormann (Paris), the son of Wolfgang Thormann. They were funded by Charlotte Clara Ebbecke, Albert Axel Junior Ebbecke, Frauke Kursawa, and Christoph Karg.

Research: Robert Gilcher

Dornbusch
Reinhardstraße 8

Paul Lissa
Date of Birth: 15.12.1883
Detention: 16.11.1938 KZ Dachau
Date of Death: 3.12.1938



Portrait of Paul Lissa, oil painting.

Paul Lissa was born in Frankfurt in 1883, the son of factory owner Ferdinand Lissa and his wife Amalia, née Weimersheim.

In 1902, Ferdinand Lissa, together with Ignatz Berger, took over a synthetic fiber and paper factory in Oberursel—originally a grinding mill—and later their sons, Alfred Berger and Paul Lissa, joined the company. The company's office (Comptoir) and paper warehouse were located on Große Friedberger Straße in Frankfurt, while the sorting facility and warehouse were in Oberursel.

The company was popularly known as the "rag sorting plant." In a 1915 advertisement, the Berger company promoted itself as a manufacturer of high-quality packing and tissue paper and as a specialist in the sorting of artificial wool. Among other things, the company produced raw materials such as mattress wool, cotton batting, and shredded wool, making it an early recycling operation. In addition to used clothing ("rags"), it primarily processed fabric scraps from tailoring shops. Following a major fire on the factory grounds in 1913 and the reconstruction of the facility, an adjacent plot of land was purchased in 1922. There, on the site of a decommissioned copper hammer mill, Plant II was established. "The company operated a business

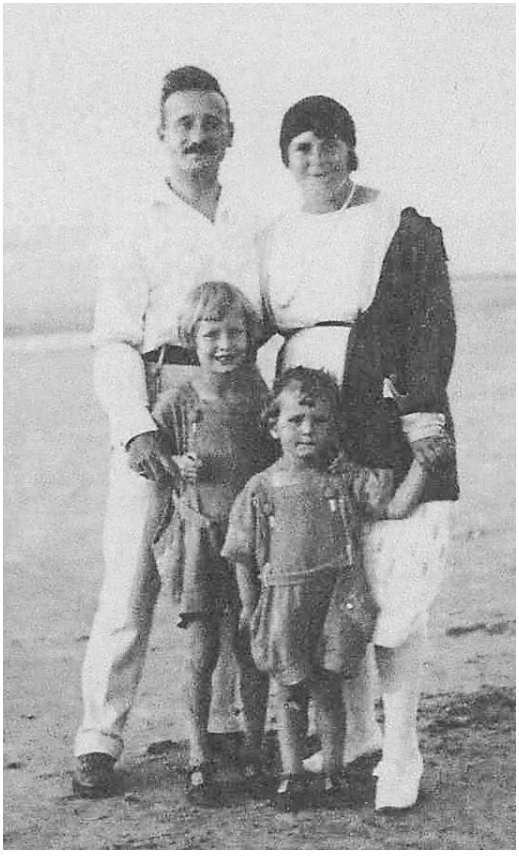
in the raw materials industry that was known far beyond the borders of Frankfurt," Alfred Berger's attorney told the compensation authority in the postwar period.

In addition to workers from the region, the company also employed women from the Ratibor district in Upper Silesia, known as the "Hultschiner Ländchen." The women lived on the company grounds. Quite a few of them settled permanently in Oberursel.



Letterhead of Ignatz Berger company.

In 1917, Paul Lissa married Katharina Simon, who was born in Frankfurt in 1890 and came from a non-Jewish Frankfurt family. Her parents were Anton Simon and Karoline, née Unders. Paul and Katharina Lissa had two sons, Ferdinand and Heinz. The family lived at Reinhardstraße 8 in Frankfurt, and the two sons attended the nearby Ziehen Gymnasium (high school). Because of their father's Jewish heritage, Heinz and Ferdinand Lissa faced numerous forms of discrimination.



Lissa family: Paul and Katharina, Ferdinand and Heinz, called Peter.

During the Nazi era, the Berger company operated under difficult conditions. It was boycotted and came under increasing pressure to undergo "Aryanization." Alfred Berger and Paul Lissa were ultimately forced to sell the business to the Neuss Paper and Parchment Factory on April 13, 1937. As with many other Jewish businesses, this "Aryanization" was accompanied by additional harassment and attempts to criminalize them. The tax audit accused the two businessmen of allegedly providing false figures.

Pursuant to the „Verordnung über die Anmeldung des Vermögens von Juden" (Ordinance on the Declaration of Jewish Assets) of April 26, 1938, Paul Lissa was required one day later to declare his entire fortune to the tax office and was no longer able to dispose of it freely.

Paul Lissa also had to give up the house on Reinhardstraße that same year. In September 1937, he informed the tax office that he had moved to Melemstraße.

Paul Lissa could not bring himself to leave Germany. On November 16, 1938, he was arrested as an "Aktionsjude" (a term used by the Nazis) during the November pogroms and taken to Dachau concentration camp, where he was registered as prisoner No. 30459 under the category "Schutzhäftling Jude" (Jewish protective custody prisoner) and listed as "Mosaic." At the same time, his religious affiliation was listed as "no religious affiliation." According to camp authorities, he died on December 3, 1938. On December 22, 1938, the SS Standartenarzt (who was also an SS-Hauptsturmführer) stated that Paul Lissa had "suddenly died of acute cardiac arrest." No prior medical treatment had taken place. There were no signs of any consequences of an accident. For this "Medical Certificate," his relatives had to pay 5 Reichsmarks to the Dachau Municipal Savings Bank.

Paul Lissa's urn was initially interred on January 20, 1939, at the Jewish Cemetery on Rat-Beil-Straße. In 1964, he was reinterred at Frankfurt's Main Cemetery.

Paul Lissa's brother Ernst, who lived with his family in Limburg, was also arrested in November 1938 and sent to the Buchenwald concentration camp. On December 15, 1938, he was released, traumatized and suffering from severe health problems. Ernst and Elli Lissa first brought their children to safety in the Netherlands via a Kindertransport. The couple managed to flee to Great Britain in early April, where they waited for visas to the United States. In October 1940, Ernst and Elli Lissa were able to continue their journey to the United States. With the help of friends who vouched for them and lent them the money for the ship passage, they also managed to save their two children, who were able to flee via Lisbon in May 1941. His time in the concentration camp and his temporary internment in Great Britain had severely compromised Ernst Lissa's health. He died in 1944 at the age of 55.

Lissa's business partner, Alfred Berger, managed to flee to Palestine in the summer of 1939.

Paul Lissa's wife, Katharina, and their two sons remained in Germany. Katharina Lissa died in 1975, and her son Heinz in 2022.

The Stolperstein was initiated by Nikolaus Boecker (great-grandson of Paul Lissa, grandson of Heinz) and Miriam Boecker-Ludwig (great-granddaughter of Paul Lissa). It was funded by Sabine Krauß.

Research: Angelika Rieber

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Since 2003, the volunteer-run **Initiative Stolpersteine Frankfurt am Main** has organized the installation of more than 2,300 Stolpersteine in 34 neighborhoods of Frankfurt. Approximately 150 new Stolpersteine are added each year. The initiative researches and documents the fates of the victims, coordinates the installations, and informs the public.

The Stolpersteine, a Europe-wide project by artist Gunter Demnig, commemorate victims of National Socialism at their last freely chosen place of residence. Many of the stones commemorate persecuted Jews—others commemorate politically persecuted individuals, victims of the murder of the sick and disabled, persecuted homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Sinti and Roma, forced laborers, or people stigmatized as "asocial."

At the same time, they remind us of the crimes committed by Nazi Germany and serve as a warning to us all today of where hatred, racism, anti-Semitism, and the disregard for human dignity and democracy can lead.

A particular focus of the initiative is to connect with the descendants and relatives of the victims, who often attend the stone-laying ceremonies in Frankfurt.

The City of Frankfurt welcomes this initiative. Many institutions support it, including the city's Cultural Affairs Office, the Jewish Community of Frankfurt, the Jewish Museum, and the Institut für Stadtgeschichte . Schools, church congregations, and organizations are involved and actively participate in the installations.

In Frankfurt, the technical preparations for the Stolperstein installations by artist Gunter Demnig are handled by the city-owned company FES, which also carries out the installation of the Stolpersteine on behalf of the initiative; these are then ceremonially unveiled.

At least twice a year, the Stolpersteine are cleaned by "cleaning sponsors"—on the Jewish Holocaust Remembrance Day "Yom HaShoah" and on November 9–10.

The Stolpersteine are funded by donations from the local community, known as "Stolperstein sponsorships." Anyone can sponsor a Stolperstein for 120 euros per stone.

The life stories and experiences of persecution of these individuals can be found online at

www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de/en/documentation

and on the official website of the City of Frankfurt at

frankfurt.de/frankfurt-entdecken-und-erleben/stadtportrait/stadtgeschichte/stolpersteine

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