

# STOLPERSTEIN-VERLEGUNG

**June 16 to 19, 2024 in Frankfurt am Main to commemorate victims of National Socialism persecuted in Frankfurt**

## **Biographies**

**for the laying of the Stolpersteine by the artist Gunter Demnig**

**Tuesday, June 18, 2024**

10:00	Sachsenhausen	Offenbacher Landstr. 224	Father Kurt <b>Dehne</b> ; Kurt Mathias von <b>Leers</b>
10:50	Innenstadt	Lange Straße 31	Szyja, Rosa, Manfred, Haentschi and Bella <b>Schwarz</b>
11:30	Nordend	Musikantenweg 8	Jacob, Zysla, Hans and Erich <b>Kallmann</b>
12:00	Nordend	Herderstrasse 5	Max, Paula, Berta Ruth and Betti Gerda <b>Stobezki</b>
13:55	Nordend	Berger Straße 15	Friedrich and Anna Margarethe <b>Stein</b>
14:25	Nordend	Hermesweg 19	Anna Süs
15:00	Ostend	Röderbergweg 41	Albert, Blanka, Hans and Eva <b>Stiefel</b>



**Current schedule also available at <https://www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de/en/news>**

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### **Sachsenhausen**

**Offenbacher Landstraße 224**

#### **Pater Kurt Dehne SJ**

Date of birth: 30.5.1901

Imprisonment: 1935-1938 arrested several times, 25.12.1943 -26.4.1945 Dachau concentration camp, survived

Kurt Dehne was born in Hanover and came from a Catholic family of physicians. After graduating from the Goethe-Gymnasium in Hanover, he began studying medicine in Freiburg, which he soon abandoned. He transferred to the University of Münster to study theology. In 1924, he joined the Jesuit order in 's-Heerenberg in the Netherlands and from then on studied at the order's house in

Valkenburg aan de Geul. He was ordained a priest after his second year of study on August 27, 1932.

From 1935, he was active in the team of speakers at the Düsseldorf House of the Order. In this role, he gave lectures on current ideological issues in many churches in Germany. He repeatedly criticized the church policy of the National Socialist regime, for example in a sermon in front of over a thousand people in Vechta in March 1937. After he was arrested and interrogated several times, the Gestapo banned him from speaking in 1938. He was living in Münster at the time.

As a result, he had to give up his function as a speaker. In 1938, Kurt Dehne moved to Frankfurt, where he became a spiritual director and professor of rhetoric and ascetics at the Sankt Georgen School of Philosophy and Theology.



*Pater Kurt Dehne SJ,  
1980s*

In 1943, he was denounced by a theology student at the university and arrested by the Gestapo. He was accused of violating the imposed ban on speaking and of arguing against the National Socialist world view on several occasions during lectures. He was also accused of copying sermons and letters from the Bishop of Münster, Count Clemens August von Galen, who had openly opposed the practice of murdering the sick and disabled.

Although he denied these accusations, he was first imprisoned in Frankfurt for a month without trial and then deported to Dachau concentration camp, where he arrived on December 25, 1943. He was interned with the prisoner number 60796 in the so-called priest's block. Clergymen from many concentration camps who had been arrested since 1940 were gathered there. Over the entire period, more than 2,700 priests from all over Europe were imprisoned there, especially many from Poland; 1,034 died in custody.

As the American forces approached the camp in April 1945, the prisoners, including Kurt Dehne, were forced to march towards the Alps. Together with other prisoners, he managed to escape on April 29 with the help of a fellow prisoner.

After the Second World War, Kurt Dehne returned to his hometown of Hanover. There, as Superior, he oversaw the reconstruction and expansion of the order's branch in Hildesheimer Straße. From 1945 until his retirement in 1989, he was, among other things, men's chaplain in the diocese of Hildesheim and police chaplain for Lower Saxony. He spent his retirement in the order's own retirement and nursing home Haus Sentmaring in Münster.

*The stumbling block was initiated by Elmar Lübbers-Paal (Adlum) and financed by the Jesuit community of Sankt Georgen in Frankfurt.*

## **Kurt Mathias von Leers**

Date of birth: 22.7.1912

Imprisonment: 19.2.1943 -18.10.1943 Dachau  
concentration camp

Date of death: 3.8.1945

Kurt von Leers was born in Geudertheim near Strasbourg as the youngest son of Kurt von Leers from the House of Schönfeld (1871-1917) and Elisabeth Ida Auguste, née von Buch (1877-1940). He was thus descended from the Leers family of Mecklenburg estate owners, who were ennobled at the end of the 18th century.

His eldest brother, Johann von Leers (1902-1965), became a National Socialist publicist and lawyer. An NSDAP member since 1929, he joined the SA in 1930 and from 1936 was a member of the SS and, as

Obersturmbann leader of the staff of the Race and Settlement Main Office. Throughout his life, he was one of the most active anti-Semitic propagandists.

After the death of his father in the First World War, Kurt von Leers went to live with relatives on the Schimm estate in northwest Mecklenburg, where he spent his youth. There he came into contact with the Catholic Church and converted to Catholicism in Rostock in 1930. At his confirmation in 1930, he presumably took the middle name Matthias. He worked as a private language teacher and volunteered in Catholic youth work, at times as prefect of the Catholic youth in the Mecklenburg deanery.

He wanted to become a priest and began studying theology at the University of Münster in 1938. In 1939, he transferred to the Sankt Georgen School of Philosophy and Theology in Frankfurt. He was drafted into the Wehrmacht in the spring of 1940, but was discharged in the fall for health reasons, possibly due to the onset of tuberculosis.

In November 1942, he was arrested by the Gestapo together with the Jesuit priest Kurt Dehne and fellow student Mainulf von Mallinckrodt and taken to Frankfurt police prison. He was suspected of being a Jesuit and of having made anti-government statements. Despite being tortured, he withstood the Gestapo's attempts to force him to make statements against the management of the seminary. His already fragile health (tuberculosis) deteriorated under the inhumane prison conditions. On February 19, 1943, he was taken to the Dachau concentration camp and interned in the so-called priest's block with the prisoner number 43848.

His brother Johann von Leers tried to use his leading position in the Nazi state to obtain the release of his sick brother from Heinrich Himmler. However, this was linked to the condition that he resolutely renounce the Catholic faith and give up his plan to become a priest. Kurt Mathias von Leers firmly rejected both.

His health continued to deteriorate in the following months. Although he was officially released from prison in August 1943, he had to remain in the military hospital at the Dachau camp until October 1943.



*Kurt Matthias von Leers, identity  
card photo 1940.*

*Provincial Archives of the Jesuits*

Interventions by the Bishop of Osnabrück, Wilhelm Berning, and the Fulda Bishops' Conference at the Reich Security Main Office initially failed. Bishop Berning finally succeeded in having the terminally ill von Leers transferred to a lung sanatorium in Todtmoos in the Black Forest. After a temporary improvement in his condition, he developed bone tuberculosis and one leg had to be amputated. He died in Todtmoos on August 3, 1945, presumably as a result of his imprisonment and torture as well as the inadequate and late medical care he received.

His brother Johann was briefly interned in the American occupation zone after the end of the war, escaped and went into hiding near Bonn under a false name. In 1950, he fled to Argentina via one of the so-called "rat lines", which were also supported by high-ranking representatives of the Catholic Church. There, as well as in extreme right-wing newspapers in Germany, he continued to publish anti-Semitic diatribes. After the fall of Peron, he went to Egypt in 1955, was personally welcomed by the Palestinian Mufti Mohammed Amin al Husseini, converted to Islam in 1957, continued to publish anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli propaganda and was temporarily employed by the BND (West Germany's secret service). He died in Cairo in 1965.

Kurt Mathias von Leers was included in the 'German Martyrology of the 20th Century' commissioned by the German Bishops' Conference in 1999.

*The stumbling block was initiated by Elmar Lübbers-Paal (Adlum) and financed by the Sankt Georgen School of Philosophy and Theology.*

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**Innenstadt**  
**Lange Straße 31**

**Rosa Schwarz**

née Ziegelmann  
Date of birth: 27.10.1904  
Deportation: 22.11.1941 Kaunas (Kovno)  
Fort IX  
Date of death: 25.11.1941

**Szyja (Oskar) Schwarz**

Date of birth: 6.2.1890  
Imprisonment: 12.11.1938-19.1.1939 Dachau  
concentration camp  
Escape: 8/25/1939 France  
Internment and forced labor: 1939 Fort  
Pegnie, 1941 Mauzac (Dordogne), Mauriac  
(Cantal), 1942 Nebuza- Pradines, liberated

**Manfred Schwarz**

Date of birth: 1.1.1933  
Deportation: 22.11.1941 Kaunas (Kovno)  
Fort IX  
Date of death: 25.11.1941

**Hanny (Haentschi) Schwarz**

Date of birth: 16.7.1935  
Deportation: 22.11.1941 Kaunas (Kovno)  
Fort IX  
Date of death: 25.11.1941

**Bella Schwarz**

Date of birth: 30.9.1939  
Deportation: 22.11.1941 Kaunas (Kovno)  
Fort IX  
Date of death: 25.11.1941



*Rosa Schwarz.*

Rosa Schwarz was the daughter of German-Jewish parents: Her father was Julius Ziegelmann from Šilgaliai/Schillgallen in East Prussia, now Lithuania. Her mother was Minna, née Feldmann from Stryi, then Austria-Hungary. At the end of the 19th century, they both came to Munich from East Prussia. Julius Ziegelmann ran a business selling hides, skins and guts, Minna Ziegelmann worked as a milliner. Rosa's eldest brother, David, was also born in Munich in 1903. Rosa was born in 1904 after moving to Nuremberg. She had five more siblings. After the birth of Lina Regina (later married Rubinfeld) in 1907, the family moved to Frankfurt am Main. Erna (also Ernestine, 1913), Dora (later married Doff, 1914), Max (1915) and Berta (1917) were born there.

Julius Ziegelmann also traded in hides, skins and guts as well as clothing and materials for the butcher's trade in Frankfurt. For many years, the family lived at Obermainstraße 4 in Ostend, which was renamed Oskar-von-Miller-Straße in 1933. The office was also located here, while the warehouse was at Ziegelhüttenweg 15 in Sachsenhausen.

Rosa first attended the kindergarten at Baumweg 5, then the Israelite School at Röderbergweg 87 and then successfully graduated from the Israelite Trade and Economics School, Königswarter Straße 11, as an economist (business administrator). During her training she lived at the economics school. She then worked in her father's business, where she managed the department for the manufacture and sale of butcher's clothing. On April 24, 1931, she married Szyja (Oskar) Schwarz in Frankfurt.

Szyja (Oskar) Schwarz was born in 1890 in Rybotycze in Galicia, then Austria-Hungary, now Poland, as the youngest child of seven siblings. He grew up in a German speaking environment. Around 1900, his strictly orthodox parents sent him to Dobromil for private German-language tuition. At the age of 15, he began an apprenticeship in a liquor store. Around 1910/1911 he came to Germany, initially to Fulda. From August 1914, he lived in Frankfurt and initially ran a sack and rubber trade. After the First World War, he also switched to trading in butchery articles.

Szyja and Rosa Schwarz initially lived in the Ziegelmanns' five-room apartment at Obermainstraße 4 (later Oskar-von-Miller-Straße). He also used the Ziegelmann warehouse in Ziegelhüttenweg. Later, he also ran a store in Wasserweg near the abattoir. Their son Manfred was born in 1933. In 1935, they moved into their own apartment at Hans-Handwerk-Straße 31 (now Lange Straße). Their daughter Haentschi (Hanny) was born there in 1935.



*Szyja Schwarz.*

After 1933, the economic situation deteriorated massively. Several "Aryan" customers refused to pay their bills. A customer from Erzhausen in SA uniform told him to his face why he was not paying the outstanding bill: "Friend Schwarz, I bought a new store in Wiesbaden with your money".

In the course of the November pogroms, Szyja Schwarz was deported to Dachau concentration camp in November 1938. There he suffered a broken ankle when he fell from the top bunk. This was not treated. Instead, he had to march with it. After his release on January 19, 1939, he had to be led. The fracture never healed properly.

In August 1939, Szyja Schwarz fled to France. He planned to catch up with Rosa and his three children - Bella was born shortly after his escape - and applied to take the whole family with him. On August 25, 1939, he was arrested while crossing the border and interned as a German in Fort Pagny and later released. In 1941, he was arrested again in Périgeux (Dordogne), this time as a Jew, and began an odyssey through several "Jewish camps", including Mauzac (Haute-Garonne), Mauriac (Cantal) and Nebouzat-Pradin (Puy-de-Dôme), where he had to perform forced labor until the Allies liberated him.

Due to the start of the war, it was no longer possible for Rosa and the children to join him. They had to change their accommodation several times and finally lived with their parents at Schwanenstraße 7 (c/o Gromb).

Rosa, Manfred, Haentschi and Bella were deported from there on November 22, 1941 in the third major deportation from the Grossmarkthalle in Frankfurt. Instead of the initially announced destination of Riga, the deportation went to Kaunas (Kovno) in Lithuania. On the transport with them were Rosa's parents Julius and Minna Ziegelmann and her sisters Erna and Berta. Together with 992 other people from Frankfurt, they were led through the city to Fort IX in Kaunas by German police battalion 11 and Lithuanian auxiliary forces and shot the following day.

Szyja Schwarz experienced the liberation in France in August 1944. He settled in Paris. There he worked as a trouser cutter, but never again reached the economic level of the pre-war period. He returned to Germany in May 1959, moved to Berlin-Reinickendorf and applied for German citizenship as a previously "stateless person". He emigrated to Israel in 1967 and died in Haifa on May 5, 1970.

Rosa Schwarz's sister Berta Friedmann, née Ziegelmann, has been commemorated by a Stolperstein at Nesenstraße 7 since 2007, while Erna (Ernestine) and her family have been commemorated by a stone in front of Oskar-von-Miller-Straße 10 (formerly house number 4) since 2017.

Her other siblings survived. David Ziegelmann, Lina Regina Rubinfeld and Dora Doff went to Israel, Max Ziegelmann to the USA.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Jackie Schwarz (Antwerp), grandniece of Szyja and Rosa Schwarz, and financed by Ralf Häuser, Evi Tschöke, Christina Freistedt, Silke Burmeister and Matthias Benz.*

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**Nordend****Musikantenweg 8****Jakob Kallmann**

Date of birth: 15.9.1900

Escape: July 1939 to England

**Zysla Kallmann, née Katz**

Date of birth: 16.6.1897

Escape: July 1939 to England

**Hans Kallmann**

Date of birth: 16.3.1923

Escape: 20.4.1939 Kindertransport to England

**Erich Kallmann**

Date of birth: 2.2.1931

Escape: 20.4.1939 Kindertransport to England

Jakob Kallmann was born in Lubranic in Poland. His wife Zysla, née Katz, came from Tomaszow in Poland. They both came to Frankfurt in 1921. They married in 1922. Zysla worked as a seamstress, Jakob initially had a job as a shoemaker in the Devy shoe factory. In 1931 he registered a company to represent textile goods. From 1933, he worked independently as a representative for board games. As sales continued to decline, he reoriented himself professionally and learned the trade of a pest controller. From 1935, he was registered as a self-employed pest controller.

Jakob and Zysla Kallmann had two sons, Hans and Erich. The family moved several times within Frankfurt. The first apartment was at G nderodestra e 11, from Gro e Landgasse 17, Blumenweg 9, Unterweg 24 and Spohrstra e 15, the family moved to Berger Stra e 22 and from here to Musikantenweg 8 in 1935.

The Kallmann family had been members of the synagogue community "Israelitische Religionsgesellschaft" since 1936. Their two sons Hans and Erich attended the Philanthropin.

Hans Kallmann was a member of the Bar Kochba sports club and the Brith Trumpeldor hiking club at Eschersheimer Landstra e 65. In 1937, Hans began a commercial apprenticeship at the Schnurrmann paper wholesaler at Stoltzestra e 13. On August 1, 1938, he was taken on as an apprentice by Franz Kleemann, the "Aryan" successor owner of the previous Jewish owner Schnurrmann.

Hans often experienced attacks and beatings from non-Jewish children on his way to school. He later reported that in the summer of 1938 he was "attacked with a pistol and injured in the right leg by a young Nazi named Rudolf Miet, who lived in the same house and knew that I was Jewish". The bullet was surgically removed eight days later by the physician Dr. Wischmann.

His younger brother Erich also experienced assaults and was afraid of being attacked and tortured by Hitler Youths every day on the way to school and while shopping.

On April 20, 1939, the two brothers Hans and Erich were able to flee to England on a Kindertransport accompanied by the Jewish welfare organization Frankfurt. The parents initially stayed behind in Frankfurt under even more difficult conditions. In the summer of 1938, SS men confiscated Jakob Kallmann's professional preparations and equipment so that he could no longer work as pest controller. A short time later, he was arrested in Friedberger Anlage and held in prison for a day and a night, where he was mistreated. He subsequently suffered a nervous breakdown and persistent nervous tremors. In the hope of obtaining a visa to leave the country, Jakob and Zysla Kallmann sold their furniture and valuables at "knockdown prices". The money they had saved was

confiscated. After long efforts, they finally received an entry visa for the United Kingdom on July 20, 1939.

From July 1939 to 1942, the Kallmann family lived in Sheffield (England), supported by relatives and aid organizations. Hans worked in a factory. Erich attended an English school. In 1942, Jakob was able to resume his profession as pest controller, although he was only able to work to a limited extent for health reasons. The sons Hans and Erich were unable to realize their original career aspirations of becoming a businessman and pharmacist under the conditions of the flight and worked together with their father in the family business "J. Kalman and sons, specialists in infestation control" in Sheffield.

Jakob Kallmann died on February 4, 1961 in Sheffield. Hans Kallmann married Simone Krol, who grew up in Wiesbaden, and had two sons with her, Melvyn (born 1949) and Danny (born 1952). Erich married Susan Kelsey, who grew up in Sheffield, and has a daughter Jane (born 1987) with her.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Melvyn and Danny Kalman (Jersey and London), sons of Hans Kallmann, as well as Doris Stein (Frankfurt). They were financed by Doris Stein, Bianca Boysen and Christian Steinle.*

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## **Nordend**

### **Herderstraße 5**

**Paula Stobezki**, née Mannheimer

Date of birth: 7.12.1893

Escape: February 1934 Brazil

**Max Stobezki**

Date of birth: 22.8.1898

Escape: February 1934 Brazil

**Berta Ruth Stobezki**

Date of birth: 4.8.1923

Escape: February 1934 Brazil

**Betti Gerda Stobezki**

Date of birth: 31.12.1924

Escape: February 1934 Brazil

Max (Sjaja, Mayer also Markus) Stobezki was born in Blaszkki in Poland. His parents were Feibus and Krajudl Stobezki, née Koschoreh. Max trained as a tailor. In 1915, he deserted from the Polish army and fled to Germany because he did not want to fight as a soldier in the First World War for the Russian Tsar Alexander I, who was also King of this part of Poland at the time.

After the end of the First World War, he married Paula Mannheimer in Frankfurt on September 12, 1922. She came from Zwingenberg (Bergstraße) and was the daughter of the local religious education teacher Gerson Mannheimer and his wife Jeannette, née Bergmann. She worked as a kindergarten teacher in Frankfurt. After their marriage, the couple moved into an apartment on the second floor of Herderstraße 5, where Max ran a "clothing factory" for men's clothing. He is listed for the first time at this address in the 1923 directory. In 1924, he can also be found with this address in the business section under the heading "Herrenkleiderfabriken" (manufacture of menswear) with the first name Markus.





*Max and Paula Stobezki with Ruth in 1924.*

Ruth, the couple's first daughter, was born in Frankfurt in 1923. Their second daughter Gerda was born in 1924.

Paula Stobezki's mother Jeannette, née Bergmann, died in Zwingenberg in 1925. Paula brought her father, who was in need of care, to Frankfurt, where he lived in the Gumpertz'schen Siechenhaus (caring home) for another four years. Gerson Mannheimer died there on February 27, 1929.

Between 1930 and 1933, the two daughters were enrolled at the Israelite elementary school on Röderbergweg. In 1930, the family moved to Bergerstrasse 28, where Max opened his own store for 'men's and boys' clothing manufacture' on the first floor. In 1932 he had to give up the store again, presumably due to the economic crisis, as the family moved back to Herderstraße 5.

Due to the persecution and decline of the

business as a result of the anti-Jewish boycott campaigns by the National Socialists and their many followers, the Stobezki family decided to leave Germany around September 1933. On February 11, 1934, they reached Brazil via the port of Rio Grande on the passenger steamer "General Osorio". They moved to Porto Alegre, where Max Stobezki tried to build a new life for himself and his family. As he did not speak the local language and did not have the necessary capital to set up a new business, he was unable to regain his economic standing. In addition to the difficulties with the unfamiliar living conditions, he also fell ill with a heart condition. As a result, he was no longer able to pursue a regular job that would secure his livelihood, but only occasionally worked as a home worker for some clothing stores. All these depressing



*The Stobezki sisters, around 1930.*



*Max Stobezki in front of his store at Bergerstrasse 28.*

circumstances led to his early death at the age of just 51. He died on July 1, 1950 in Porto Alegre. This was by no means an isolated fate. Many other persecuted people who had to flee Germany at an advanced age did not manage to build a new life for themselves in a foreign country and died "of a broken heart". One example of this was Max's nephew David Stobezki, who fled to Palestine in 1933.

Paula Stobezki died in 1976, Gerda, married Schattmann in 2011 and Ruth, married Herz in 2016, all in Porto Alegre. Both daughters took part in the City of Frankfurt's visiting program in 1998.

*The Stumbling Stones were initiated by Eldad Stobezki (Frankfurt) and financed by Rosi and Edgar Reh.*

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## Nordend

### Berger Straße 15

#### Friedrich "Fritz" Leopold Stein

Date of birth: 18.11.1890

Imprisonment: 13.11.1938-30.11.1938

Buchenwald concentration camp

Survived in hiding

**Anna Margarethe Stein,**

née Gumbrecht

Date of birth: 26.5.1895

ostracized, harassed in "Mischehe"



*Fritz Stein as a soldier.*

Fritz Stein was born in Großkarlbach near Bad Dürkheim, one of the six children of Wilhelm Stein and Frieda, née Lurch. After attending elementary school, he attended the Realgymnasium in Bad Dürkheim, but had to leave prematurely due to the sudden death of his father. In 1905, he began his commercial apprenticeship at the company "Marx Mayer, Kaffee-Import und Groß-Rösterei" in Speyer. He then found employment with the Frankfurt grain trading companies "Bär & Wetterhahn" and "Isaac senior", for which he also worked on the grain exchange.



*Fritz Stein.*

Fritz Stein was a soldier throughout the First World War, spending a total of almost six years in the military. He was a member of the Reichsbanner Schwarz-Rot-Gold from 1924 to 1926.

After 1918, Fritz Stein founded a tobacco wholesale and retail business in Frankfurt with the help of his brother, who owned a cigarette factory, with branches in Bad Homburg and in Frankfurt, Moselstraße. As the coffee trade seemed more attractive to him, he founded the company "Batavia" Kaffeeimport und Versand.

Fritz Stein married Anna Gumbrecht, who was not Jewish, in May 1924. At this time, he lived at Herderstraße 24 and Anna Gumbrecht in her birthplace of Uffenheim. She was one of the five children of Uffenheim-based baker Heinrich Gumbrecht and his wife Marie, née Gebhardt. Fritz's brother-in-law Fritz Sundheimer, who lived at Sandweg 135, was the best man. Anna was a nurse and X-ray nurse by profession; she had started her training in 1915 at the Red Cross Nursing



*Fritz Stein cigar store Berger Str. 15.*

Association in Stuttgart and over the years trained as a nurse and X-ray assistant, working for several years at the outpatient clinic for skin diseases at the municipal hospital in Frankfurt. From 1927, she worked in her husband's business - the "Batavia" coffee import and dispatch company. In addition to Anna Stein, there were five other employees.

With the transfer of power to the National Socialists, it became impossible for Fritz and Anna Stein to expand their business as planned or even to continue it. This began with the boycott measures of 1933 and continued with "the SS setting up machine guns opposite the store at the entrance to the Klingerschule in the spring of 1934, frightening and driving away customers", as Fritz Stein reported in 1955. When he was arrested in

November 1938, he and his wife had to give up their business.

Fritz Stein was imprisoned in the Buchenwald concentration camp from November 13 to 30, 1938. Anna Stein later explained that her husband had been released because he had been a soldier during the First World War and had been awarded the "Iron Cross". They had also received permission to emigrate to the USA in 1938. The reasons why they did not realize this plan can no longer be traced. In any case, Fritz Stein worked as an inspector for the Jewish community in Frankfurt after his release from prison. As this hardly provided an adequate income, Anna Stein wanted to work as a nurse and X-ray nurse again. She was unable to do so for a long time; it was not until the spring of 1942 that she was offered a job at the Heilig Geist Hospital, albeit under unfavorable conditions. "As she had a Jewish husband, she (...) was not employed as a nurse and X-ray nurse, but only as a so-called commercial nurse", which meant she only received 60 Reichsmarks instead of the usual monthly salary of 250 to 300 Reichsmarks, as her later legal representative Henry Osmond explained.

According to the population register, Fritz and Anna Stein were living at Berger Straße 15 in 1939, where they had already lived in 1933. The house belonged to them. In November 1942, they were forced to give up this home and move to a one-room apartment at Pflingstweidstraße 10, and finally to Sandweg 14 in October 1943.

In order to escape persecution by the National Socialists, Fritz and probably Anna Stein lived in hiding after 1943. In its article "The Last in Frankfurt" from April 6, 1945, the German-Jewish exile newspaper "Aufbau", published in New York, reported: "Fritz Stein returned to the city today after hiding in the woods for weeks" - probably with the help of his wife. Several of his closest relatives were not so



*Fritz and Anna Stein 1940.*

lucky: his mother Frieda was murdered in Auschwitz, as were his sisters Johanette and Rosalie and brother Eduard.

After their return, Fritz and Anna Stein once again lived in their house at Berger Straße 15, where Anna, who later became a widow, remained until 1967. Obviously, they did not realize their plan to emigrate to the USA, which they had pursued in 1948. On behalf of the US military government, Fritz Stein was involved in the reconstruction of the Jewish community in Frankfurt, which he headed until January 1948.

Fritz Stein died on October 28, 1957 in Frankfurt, Anna Stein on July 25, 1982 in her birth place Uffenheim.

Fritz Stein's sister Elisabeth Sundheimer, née Stein, and her family are commemorated by stumbling stones at Baumweg 35.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Michael Engel (Ludlow, Mass., USA), great-nephew of Fritz Stein, and financed by Dieter Nittel.*

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## **Nordend**

### **Hermesweg 19**

**Anna Süs**, née Strauß

Date of birth: 13.7.1871

Deportation: 1.9.1942 Theresienstadt, 29.9.1942 Treblinka

Date of death: unknown

Anna Strauß was born in Kindenheim near Frankenthal in the Palatinate as the daughter of Moses Strauß and Johanna Strauß, née Klein. Her father Moses, born on August 2, 1831 in Kindenheim, died on April 15, 1910 in Kaiserslautern, was also an honorary shochet, prayer leader and Torah reader in Kindenheim. His wife Johanna was born on November 8, 1838 in Esslingen, she died on January 2, 1898.

Anna Strauß had five siblings: Theodor (born 1865), Rosa, later married Insel, Friederike, later married Ehrlich, Dr. jur. Heinrich Helmut (born 1876) and Flora (born 1878), later married Reilinger.

Anna married Ludwig Süs, born on September 21, 1870 in Eppelsheim. He ran a 'manufactory and haberdashery store' in Eppelsheim at Kirchgasse 19 (formerly no. 9), which he had taken over from his widowed mother Fanni Süs in 1899.

Anna and Ludwig Süs had a son, Otto, who was born in Eppelsheim on December 4, 1895. After Ludwig Süs died on January 29, 1905, Anna Süs initially continued to run the store alone.

Otto Süs later took over his parents' business as a merchant. He married Bertha Weil, born on July 13, 1897 in Albersweiler/Pfalz, on November 21, 1927. Their son Karl Ludwig (later Charles Louis) was born in Eppelsheim on August 17, 1928.

Otto Süs deregistered from the municipality of Eppelsheim on November 27, 1937 and initially fled to New York alone. He traveled with the SS 'Washington' via Hamburg and arrived in New York on December 11, 1937. His wife Bertha Süs and son Karl Ludwig moved from Eppelsheim to

Albersweiler on July 10, 1938. Soon afterwards, they set sail from Bremen on the SS 'Columbus' to New York, where they arrived on August 17, 1938.

The store in Eppelsheimer Kirchgasse had previously been sold. It continued to exist until the 1980s.

Otto's family lived in the New York district of Washington Heights/Manhattan (also known as "Frankfurt on the Hudson") until his death in April 1967. His son Charles Louis became a construction engineer and married Lora, whom he had known since 1948 and to whom he was married for 71 years, on June 8, 1952. They moved to New York-Queens, where he set up a construction company. Together they had three children: Carol, Robert and Steven, nine grandchildren and twenty-six great-grandchildren. Charles and Lora Sues had lived in Naples, Florida since July 1994. Charles Sues died at the age of 95 on January 14, 2024.

Anna Süs deregistered from Eppelsheim on June 1, 1939 and moved to Hermesweg 19 in Frankfurt. Her last home was at Scheffelstraße 24, in a so-called "ghetto house", a building owned by Jewish owners in which those persecuted as Jews were forced to live. She was apparently waiting there for the opportunity to escape to her son in New York.

In November 1941, proceedings were brought against her before the foreign currency office in Frankfurt. The files show that she had no profession, no earnings and no assets. She received very small amounts as "gratuitous allowances" from various emigrant blocked accounts, for example from her sister-in-law Auguste Dürkes (Davos), from Moritz Mayer, the husband of a cousin of her deceased husband (Geneva) and "payments from relatives who are still in Germany", for example from the "military pension due to her son Otto Süs, currently in New York" and "from a small cash amount of around 200 marks, which represents the rest of her assets". She testified in the proceedings that her son would have let her come to America a long time ago if he had been in a position to do so.

Anna Süs was deported on September 1, 1942 at the age of 71 during the eighth deportation from the "ghetto house" at Scheffelstraße 24, where she had to spend her last weeks in Frankfurt, to the Theresienstadt transit and concentration camp and from there on September 29, 1942 under the transport number "Bs-1589" to the Treblinka extermination camp, where she was murdered. Her date of death is unknown and was set for May 8, 1945.

Three of Anna Süs' siblings were also murdered in the Shoah.

Her brother Theodor Strauß, born in 1865, was deported from Berlin to Theresienstadt on July 8, 1942, and from there to the Treblinka extermination camp on September 19, 1942, where he was murdered.

Anna's brother Dr.jur. Heinrich Strauß, born in 1876, a lawyer (Justizrat) in Ludwigshafen, was married to Therese (née Gern, born 1890 Ludwigshafen), they had three children. Lieselotte Shulamit (born 1917), Ilse Hertha (born 1920) and Chava (born 1922). Heinrich and Therese Strauß were deported from Ludwigshafen to the internment camp in Gurs on October 22, 1940. Heinrich was murdered in the Noé camp on February 9, 1942. Therese Strauß was deported from the Gurs camp to Auschwitz on August 5, 1942 and murdered there. After the deportation of the Strauß family, the Ludwigshafen city council granted itself the 'right of first refusal' for the following confiscated items from Heinrich's private property: a desk, two armchairs, a sock corner cupboard, a wastepaper basket, an oak table, a clothes rack and a typewriter.

Heinrich and Therese Straus' children were able to flee. Lieselotte Shulamit married Karl-August Treidel, had one child and died in Tel Aviv in 1943, Ilse Hertha married Max Michael Rothschild, had four children and died in Fort Lee/USA in 2013, Chava died in 2003.

Anna's sister Flora Reilinger, née Strauß, born in 1878, was deported from Berlin-Schöneberg to the Lodz/Litzmannstadt ghetto on October 10, 1941 and from there to the Chelmo extermination camp on May 8, 1942, where she was murdered.

*The stumbling block was initiated by Daniela Epstein (Jerusalem, Israel), Anna Süs was a cousin of her mother. It was financed by Hildegard Baum.*

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## **Ostend Röderbergweg 41**

### **Albert Stiefel**

Date of birth: 21.9.1880  
Imprisonment: 1938 Buchenwald  
concentration camp  
Escape: 1939 England, 1940 USA

### **Blanka Stiefel, née Fisch**

Date of birth: 17.2.1893  
Escape: 1940 Italy, USA

### **Eva Stiefel**

Date of birth: 20.7.1922  
Escape: 1940 Italy, USA

### **Hans Stiefel**

Date of birth: 4.2.1924  
Escape: 1940 Italy, USA

Albert Stiefel was the fourth of five children born in Frankfurt am Main. His father Manasse (1846-1927) came from Groß-Karben, his mother Regine, née Neumann (1880-1935) from Kochendorf in Württemberg. In 1918, Albert married Blanka Fisch, who was born in Mannheim. Her father Salomon (1857-1924) came from Carlsberg, Palatinate, her mother Emma née Hochstädter (1864-1937) from Langenheim in Middle Franconia. Blanka had an older brother (Max; 1891-1948). The wedding of Blanka and Albert took place in Mannheim. The couple settled in Frankfurt at Röderbergweg 37, where their children Eva and Hans were born. The family lived there until 1930. In the mid-1920s, they first bought the neighboring residential house at Röderbergweg 41, and shortly afterwards also their home, house number 37. When they sold the latter again in 1931, they moved into a spacious five-room apartment on the second floor of Röderbergweg 41. The house, built in the historicist style was heavily destroyed by bombing and re-erected after the war..

Blanka and Albert were the founders and co-owners of Gumpert & Co. in Kassel, a household appliances store. In Frankfurt, Albert also worked as an authorized signatory at the August Annathan trading company. He is listed by name in the 1935 inflammatory pamphlet "An answer to the atrocity and boycott incitement of Jews abroad". This propaganda pamphlet was intended to encourage the boycott of companies and businesses owned by Jews in Frankfurt.

Hans started school at the Dahlmann School in 1930. He was the only Jewish child in his class. In 1932, he was attacked by a classmate because of his Jewish background. The class teacher, Miss Gietz, then visited the Stiefel family in their home to apologize for the incident. Hans also remembered a later radio report that he heard after school, five days before his ninth birthday. It announced the appointment of Adolf Hitler as Reich Chancellor. As Albert was already retired, he was at home. Hans immediately ran to his father to tell him the news. He also remembered the

boycotts and attacks against Jewish traders that began immediately afterwards. However, the pogroms subsided after a few days. In 1934, he transferred to the Jewish secondary school Philanthropin, which enabled him to attend school without discrimination.

Nothing could be found out about Eva's training and experiences.

For Blanka and Albert, it was clear that they had to leave Germany. The original plan was to wait until Hans had completed his A-levels. To prepare for his escape, Albert went to the USA for a few months in 1936. He concealed the real reason for his trip from his family. In 1937, after the Olympic Games, discrimination against the Jewish population increased again. A sign saying "German business" was put up in the shop window of the bakery, where the Stiefel family had been regular customers for years. The baker's wife then came to the Stiefel family to apologize. Her husband had been pressured into it. Later, another sign was put up saying "Jews are not wanted here!".

The exit procedures were complex, lengthy, and expensive. In July 1938, Blanka and Albert received the news that the quota for US visas had been exceeded. The family was on the waiting list. On August 30, the guarantees for the visas were issued. In the fall, an employee of the US consulate called to summon the family to Stuttgart to issue the visas.

Before the November pogroms, Albert Stiefel was warned of an imminent arrest. At the last second, he tried to flee to acquaintances in the countryside. Accompanied by Hans, he hurried to Frankfurt Ostbahnhof, which was a seven-minute walk from Röderbergweg 41. But once there, he was picked up by Gestapo officers and arrested. As Hans was not yet 16 years old, he escaped arrest. Albert Stiefel was deported to Buchenwald concentration camp, where he was humiliated and mistreated. His prisoner number was 29591. When he was released, he had to promise to leave Germany within six months. He was forced to sell his property. The buyer of their home at Röderbergweg 41 was already in September the authorized signatory Heinrich Bergk. The family lived there for rent until they fled. The house at Röderbergweg 20, purchased in 1930, went to a locomotive driver from Karlsruhe, Otto Mittenbühler.

Albert was almost penniless after the long period without income and the theft of his property. However, he managed to find a banker who helped him to flee to England. This happened in August 1939 and he was able to smuggle some money. He communicated with the family in Frankfurt via acquaintances in Brussels. In England, he was interned by the authorities as a so-called Enemy Alien, but was released under certain conditions (category B) on November 20 after his loyalty was checked.

The fact that the family was separated prompted the US consulate to postpone the entry application. After reapplying, Blanka and the children were granted visas on November 17, 1939. The next difficulty was to obtain tickets for the ship passage. Blanka went to Berlin especially for this, but returned empty-handed. With the help of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, a Jewish emigration aid organization, an alternative escape route was found. In January 1940, Blanka and the children left their hometown for Italy.

In the meantime, Albert also received a visa, on January 23, 1940, and immediately boarded the steamship "Britannic" in Liverpool, arriving in New York on February 9. Blanka and the children embarked in Genoa. The steamship "Manhattan" took them to New York on February 12, 1940, where Albert received them at the port.

The family settled in Jackson Heights. Eva had to work as a housekeeper, but suffered an acute stress reaction. In 1943, she married and started a family of her own. Hans found a job in a carpet store. At the age of 18, in 1942, he was drafted - still stateless - into the US army. As an infantryman, later in an engineer unit, he took part in the campaign in North Africa. During this deployment, he was granted US citizenship. He also started his own family after the war.

Albert died in 1953 at the age of 72. Blanka died in 1985, age 92. Eva and Hans both died in 2017, she aged 95, he aged 93.

Albert Stiefel's sister Ida (born July 2, 1879) was deported to Lodz with her husband Abraham Kaufmann and daughter Susi on October 19, 1941 and murdered. They are commemorated by stumbling stones in front of the house at Am Tiergarten 32.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Michael Stiefel (Brookline, Mass., USA), son of Hans Stiefel. They were financed by Erika Reid (Frankfurt) and Dawn Richardson (Frankfurt) as a thank you for the Frankfurt Jewish Community's Center for the Elderly.*

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**Schedule of further Stumbling Stone Layings in Frankfurt  
from June 16 to 19, 2024 at:**

**<https://www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de/en/news>**



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