STOLPERSTEIN-VERLEGUNG

Installation of new Stolpersteine
June 29 to July 2, 2025, in Frankfurt am Main,
commemorating victims of National Socialism

Biographies
for the ceremonies on July 1st and 2nd, 2025

Tuesday, July 1, 2025 - Installation of Stolpersteine by artist Gunter Demnig:

10:00	Sachsenhausen	Ludwig-Rehn-Straße 9	Siegmund, Anna, Günther, Gertie, Margot, Evelyn and Werner **Morgenthal**
10:40	Sachsenhausen	Eschenbachstraße 35	Stefan Leopold, Lotte, Walter Gustav and Marion Ellen **Demuth**
11:25	Bockenheim	Zeppelinallee 35	Jenny, Peter and Susanne **Merzbach**; Anneliese **Schmidt**
12:00	Bockenheim	Adalbertstraße 6	Bernhardine, Lieselotte and Elfriede **Goldschmidt**
14:00	Nordend	Stettenstraße 4	Hans, Alice, Kurt and Paul **Ehrenfeld**
14:50	Westend	Fürstenbergerstraße 171	Klara **Blüthenthal**
15:40	Dornbusch	Geigerstraße 4	Rosalie Antonia ‚Tonie' **Tauber**

Wednesday, July 2, 2025 - Unveiling of new Stolpersteine:

11:00	Westend	Schumannstraße 10	Henry, Bertha, Stella Luise, Hilde and Friedel **Rothschild;** Catherine and Henri **Mentzel**
12:10	Westend	Bockenheimer Landstr. 114	Dr. Kurt, Lore, Ruth and Rolf Emil **Stavenhagen**
12:45	Westend	Bockenheimer Landstr. 124	Dr. David, Stephanie, Liselot, Max and Hans **Rothschild**
13:40	Westend	Kronberger Straße 7	Alfred and Alice **Falkenstein**

The updated schedule for all four days can be found under:
https://www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de/en/news

Sachsenhausen
Ludwig-Rehn-Straße 9 (ehemals Eschenbachstraße 9)

Siegmund Morgenthal
Date of birth: 16.1.1868
Date of death: 13.7.1941

Gerda „Gertie“ Morgenthal
Date of birth: 4.3.1899
Deportation: 24.9.1942 Raasiku
Date of death: unknown

Margot Ilse Morgenthal
Date of birth: 5.9.1908
Deportation: May 1942 Lublin region
Date of death: unknown

Anna Morgenthal,née Oppenheimer
Date of birth: 24.4.1876
Date of death: 16.6.1942

Günther Morgenthal
Date of birth: 20.9.1906
Escape: 1936 South Africa

Evelyn Irene Morgenthal
Date of birth: 5.9.1908
Escape: 1939 USA

Werner Morgenthal
Date of birth: 12.2.1910
Escape: 1937 USA

Siegmund (Shmuel) Morgenthal came from Idstein where his father Moses Morgenthal was a religious teacher and cantor for the Jewish community. At the turn of the century, the merchant founded a thriving commercial agency for furniture and upholstered goods in Frankfurt, with business premises at Neue Mainzer Str. 25. From May 27, 1898, Siegmund Morgenthal was married to Anna (Hitzel), née Oppenheimer. The couple had six children: Gertie (born in 1899), Walter (1903), Günther (1906), twins Margot Ilse and Evelyn Irene (1908), and Werner (1910).

In 1910, the Morgenthal couple purchased a three-story, nine-room house in the Eschenbachstraße 9 (renamed Ludwig-Rehn-Straße 9 at the end of 1948), where the family lived until 1937.

Their daughter Gerda “Gertie” Morgenthal never married. She graduated from the Elisabethenschule in 1915 and worked for over 20 years as an employee at Lurgi Apparatebau GmbH and Metallgesellschaft AG. Her sister Margot Ilse also remained unmarried and cared for her parents' household until 1937.

Their son Walter Morgenthal, born on February 4, 1903, graduated from the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gymnasium (now the Freiherr-vom-Stein-Schule) in 1921. This was followed by a two-year commercial apprenticeship at Kaufmann & Weinstein. In 1925, he moved to Erfurt, where he was employed as a traveling salesman and shipping manager at Weinstein & Co. From 1929 to 1934, he worked as a purchasing agent for Gebrüder Klebe in Eisenach. On July 9, 1931, he married Karola Rosenthal, born June 24, 1904, in Giessen near Frankfurt. The couple lived in Eisenach at Moltkestraße 6.

His brother Günther Morgenthal attended the Wöhlerschule in Frankfurt from 1913 to 1922, graduating with a secondary school diploma. From 1922 to 1924, he completed a commercial apprenticeship at Goldschmidt & Kiefer in the Kaiserstraße and then joined his father's commercial agency in the Neue Mainzer Str. 25.

Werner Morgenthal, born on February 12, 1910 as the youngest child, graduated with his secondary school diploma at the Höheren Privatschule in Frankfurt in 1926 and then completed a two-and-a-half-year commercial apprenticeship at the furniture fabric store Marx & Rohde. From 1929, he worked there as a warehouse clerk. At the end of June 1933, he was dismissed by his employer for "racial" reasons. Werner did not find permanent employment again until the end of 1934, when he was hired as a warehouse clerk and accountant at the Max Lumer company in Frankfurt, where he worked until August 1937.

In the years following the National Socialists' seizure of power, the Morgenthal family's living conditions deteriorated dramatically. At the end of 1935, Siegmund Morgenthal's commercial agency, which had been successful for decades, lost its main clients. As a result, he was forced to significantly reduce his business activities from the beginning of 1936 and cope with a serious loss of revenue.

In view of the increasing anti-Semitic discrimination, Walter Morgenthal with his wife Karola who lived in Eisenach, was the first to decide to leave Germany. In 1934, the couple moved again, this time to Hindenburgstraße 110 (today Ludwig-Landmann-Straße) in Frankfurt, where they lived with their parents-in-law, the Rosenthals, for a short time until they fled to South Africa in the fall of 1934.

Günther Morgenthal was dismissed from his position at the end of June 1933 because of his Jewish ancestry. In January 1936, he also managed to flee to Cape Town on the steamship "Windsor Castle." After arriving in South Africa, he initially found work and accommodation on a farm. In November 1936, he moved to Johannesburg after being hired by Shirts & Clothing Manufacturers. There, on June 27, 1937, Günther Morgenthal married Lieselotte Goldschmidt, who had fled Frankfurt in 1936 (see Stolperstein at Adalbertstraße 9).


Günter Morgenthal
Lieselotte Morgenthal
geb. Goldschmidt
Vermählte
Johannesburg Juli 1937 Frankfurt a. M.
50, Oster Mansions
Saratoga Ave.
Doornfontein
Nach kurzer, schwerer Krankheit verschied
unser lieber

Wedding announcement - Frankfurter Zeitung und Handelsblatt. 82. Jahrgang. 7.1937.

On August 24, 1937, Werner also fled to the US and arrived in New York on September 3. On July 2, 1939, he married Selma Reis, born July 15, 1916, in Eppertshausen near Dieburg who had fled from the Gärtnerweg 9 in Frankfurt at the end of April 1937.

Faced with the loss of their financial foundation, Siegmund and Anna Morgenthal had to sell their house at Eschenbachstraße 9 in September 1937. The property, which had been valued at 45,000 Reichsmark (RM) by the Frankfurt tax office in 1935, was now purchased for 14,500 RM, just above the standard value by Alma Sackur (1875-1960).

The former opera singer herself was effectively banned from working as a "half-Jew" after being excluded from the Reich Music Chamber. Alma Sackur had lived in her own house at Falkstraße 21 until 1937, which she was forced to sell for the expansion of the factory premises of Hartmann & Braun (electrical measuring instruments, a war-essential business from 1939). She had the house at

Eschenbachstraße 9 converted into a three-family house, moved into one of the three apartments herself, and rented out the other two. On September 12, 1944, just one month after the death of Alma's only son, Bruno Heinz Joachim Sackur, a soldier on the Eastern Front, the house was severely damaged in a bombing raid and its residents were evacuated until the end of 1947.

After taking over and paying off the mortgage, the Morgenthals were left with just 3,750 Reichsmarks from the forced sale of their property in 1937, on which they had to live from then on. The family moved from their nine-room house to a five-room apartment at Eppsteiner Straße 53. The commercial agency was liquidated on December 31, 1938, and finally deleted from the commercial register on April 5, 1939.

In 1939, their daughter Evelyn Irene Morgental was the last to escape to the US.

In 1940, the impoverished couple fell seriously ill. They were now only able to make ends meet with the help of lodgers and financial support from their daughter Gertie, who lived at Bornheimer Landstraße 85 in 1940. Siegmund Morgenthal finally died at the age of 73 on July 13, 1941, and his wife Anna died less than a year later at the age of 66 on June 16, 1942, in Frankfurt.

Shortly before, in May 1942, their daughter Margot Ilse was deported “to the East,” most likely to the Lublin region, to the “Izbica” ghetto or the “Majdanek”camp, where she was murdered. The date and place of her death are unknown.

On September 24, 1942, her sister Gertie Morgenthal was also deported from the hospital of the Jewish community at Gagernstraße 36, together with 233 other Jewish victims from Frankfurt, to “Raasiku” in Estonia, where she was murdered. The exact date of her death is also unknown.

Günther Morgenthal fled to South Africa, where he found work at Patlansky Brothers & Patley from November 1937 to April 1943. His wife Lieselotte contributed to the household income with several jobs as a saleswoman. In 1943, Günther and his wife opened a grocery store in Johannesburg, which they had to give up in 1956 due to illness. The couple had two children in South Africa: a son, Ronald (born June 13, 1945), and a daughter, Beryl (born November 9, 1947). Günther Morgenthal died on October 18, 2005, in Toronto, Canada.

His brother Walter, who also fled to South Africa, died on July 18, 1991, in Johannesburg. Since Walter Morgenthal's last freely chosen place of residence before his escape was Moltkestraße 6 in Eisenach, this is also the place where he should be commemorated with a Stolperstein.

Werner Morgenthal, who fled to the US in 1937, served in the US Army from 1944 to 1946. From 1947, he ran a small grocery store with his brother-in-law Hugo Lehmann but had to give it up in 1959. He and his wife Selma had two children, Alan and Marion. Werner Morgenthal died on August 25, 1976, in New York.

His sister Evelyn Irene died on November 15, 2007, in Atlantic Beach, New York.

Stolpersteine at Adalbertstraße 6b commemorate the family of Günther Morgenthal's wife Lieselotte, née Goldschmidt. Her mother, Bernhardine Goldschmidt, was deported from Frankfurt to Minsk on November 11, 1941, along with other relatives, and murdered.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Beryl Mosselson (Toronto), daughter of Günther Morgenthal, and financed by Eva Kutter, Dieter Leonhard, Stefanie Müller-Vogt, Ilona und Clemens Scheitza, as well as by the SPD-Ortsverein Sachsenhausen and the Heinrich-Kleyer-Schule, Frankfurt.

Sachsenhausen
Eschenbachstraße 35

Stefan Leopold Demuth
Date of birth: 31.12.1904
Escape: July 1938 London/England

Walter Gustav Demuth
Date of birth: 18.1.1932
Escape: August 1938 England

Lotte Demuth, née Stiebel
Date of birth: 2.11.1906
Escape: August 1938 England

Marion Ellen Demuth
Date of birth: 1.8.1937
Escape: August 1938 England

Stefan Leopold Demuth was born in Frankfurt am Main, the son of Moritz (Mayer) Demuth (1875-1938) and his wife Margarete, née Blüh (1882-1942). His parents married on March 6, 1904, and initially lived at Eschenbachstraße 26, which was owned by Lotte Demuth's parents, Gustav and Alice Stiebel. Later, the family moved to Eschenbachstraße 35.

The Demuth family's livelihood came from the Frankfurt leather factory “Jakob Hermann Epstein” in Hahnstraße 28 in Niederrad, which was owned and managed by Moritz Demuth. The factory produced high-quality colored leather for industry and trade, especially for bookbinding and the shoe industry.

Stefan Demuth graduated from high school in Frankfurt and then studied for four or five semesters at Goethe University before joining his father's business as a merchant. From 1922 onwards, he worked in all the important departments of the company in order to acquire the necessary skills to become a sole procurator and qualify as a future director of the company.

In 1932, he married Lotte Stiebel from Frankfurt, daughter of Gustav (1872-1931) and Alice Stiebel (1864-1965). Their son Walter Gustav was born in the same year, followed five years later by their daughter Marion Ellen.

Immediately after the Nazis came to power, they put pressure on the Demuth family. Until his retirement in 1935, Moritz Demuth remained the dominant figure in the company. Stefan Demuth also retained his technical management role until 1938 thanks to his professional expertise. In that year, the Demuth family was forced to sell their company. In 1941, it was renamed “Feinlederwerke Niederrad AG.” The Demuth family benefited from the fact that their company had long been internationally oriented. For example, Stefan Demuth traveled to the US in January 1926,

accompanied by his wife Lotte in April 1936. Officially, the purpose of the trip was to visit American leather factories, but unofficially it was to explore escape options.

After completing all the bureaucratic procedures and settling considerable financial claims, including the so-called “Reichsfluchtsteuer” (flight tax), Stefan Demuth fled to London in July 1938, followed a month later by his wife Lotte and their two children. They found an apartment in London-Hampstead. Stefan Demuth found employment as a merchant in the leather trade.

In 1939, Stefan Demuth's widowed mother, Margarete Demuth, lived as a subtenant at Eschenbachstraße 26 (5th floor). Her poor health required repeated hospital stays. Nevertheless, she was determined to flee Germany as well, which is why she went through many of the required bureaucratic procedures and fulfilled financial demands. She was actually granted an exit permit. By that time, however, her health was already very poor; in February 1942, she was admitted to the Jewish hospital in Gagernstraße. She died there on April 25, 1942, of “cerebral palsy following multiple sclerosis.”

Lotte Demuth's widowed mother, Alice Stiebel, née Rosenbaum, was able to flee to England in time and died in London on March 18, 1965. Hans Stiebel, Lotte Demuth's brother, fled to Brazil in 1938.

Stefan Demuth's brother Rudolf Eugen fled to England in 1938. There he changed his name to Eric Dent. Until 1941, he was interned as a so-called “enemy alien.” He then studied law at Cambridge. He died in 2000.

Walter Gustav Demuth married Mariette Bonda, who was from Prague.

Stefan Demuth died on April 29, 1966, in London, his wife Lotte on February 10, 1989. Their daughter Marion Ellen, married Tucker, died in 2023.

According to a descendant in 2025, the Demuth family was able to “establish themselves very successfully and happily in England.” Both Stefan and his son Walter worked successfully in the leather industry throughout their professional lives. Unfortunately, Stefan died early in 1966, but the close-knit and growing family of Walter and his wife Mariette (née Bonda, born on May 23, 1934, in Prague) now numbers 20 children, including three great-grandchildren."

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Karen Dowley, London, daughter of Walter Demuth, and financed by Rosa Fromm, Theresa Valtin, Andreas Seuß, and Christiane Wegner.

Bockenheim
Zeppelinallee 35

Jenny Merzbach, née Spier
Date of birth: 25.7.1880
Escape: 1937 Holland
Imprisonment: 21.11.1942 Scheveningen, 16.12.1942 Westerbork transit camp
Deportation: 14.9.1943 Auschwitz:
Date of death: 17.9.1943

Anneliese Schmidt, née Merzbach
Date of birth: 4.9.1906
Imprisonment: 1.11.1941 Ravensbrück concentration camp, "transferred" to extermination center Bernburg
Date of death: 1.5.1942

Peter Merzbach
Date of birth: 21.09.1907
Escape: 1934 Holland, 1938 USA

Susanne Merzbach
Date of birth: 25.10.1911
Escape: 1933 Belgium and France 1933
Survived with help

Sophie Jenny Spier grew up in Wickrath, where her father Zacharias was a leather manufacturer. In 1905, Jenny married lawyer Dr. Albert Friedrich Merzbach, who came from a well-known Offenbach family. He was the son of Heinrich Merzbach and the grandson of Siegmund Merzbach, founder of the Merzbach Bank in Offenbach, after whom a square in Offenbach is named today. The couple moved to Frankfurt. Around 1912, they built and moved into the villa at Zeppelinallee 35. They had three children in Frankfurt, Anneliese, Peter, and Susanne.

Jenny Spier (right) with her sister Betty.

Albert died in 1918 as a "hero of World War I" and is buried in the Jewish cemetery on Rat-Beil-Straße in Frankfurt am Main.

Albert starb 1918 als „Held des Ersten Weltkriegs" und ist auf dem jüdischen Friedhof in der Rat-Beil-Straße in Frankfurt am Main beerdigt.

Albert Merzbach during World War 1.

Jenny and the children continued to live in Zeppelinallee. Jenny Merzbach did not sell the house until around 1929. She is listed in the Frankfurt address book until 1933, next to a new address at Bockenheimer Anlage 13. In the address books from 1934 to 1936, she is listed at Eschersheimer Anlage 23. Since Zeppelinallee 35 was the center of the family's life for almost 20 years, the Stolpersteine are being laid here.

Jenny Merzbach's son Peter studied medicine after attending the Goethe Gymnasium. After graduating in 1933, he saw no prospect of obtaining a license to practice medicine. Together with his fiancée Amelie Grünhut, he therefore applied for an entry permit for the USA. Until they received their visas, they went to Holland. The two were married there in May 1934. Peter Merzbach was unable to continue and complete his training there either. He worked for a German company until he was dismissed in 1938. In the US, Merzbach had to study again, while his wife earned a meager living doing odd jobs. In 1941, Peter Merzbach finally received his license to practice medicine and settled in Amherst, Massachusetts.

Jenny Merzbach in Holland.

Jenny Merzbach had followed her son Peter to the Netherlands in 1937, although many questions surrounding her emigration had not yet been resolved. Jenny Merzbach had therefore initially hesitated to move abroad. To make matters worse, her pension payments were later stopped because she was living abroad. Jenny Merzbach initially lived in Naarden, then in Amsterdam from 1939. While her son managed to flee to the US in 1938, Jenny Merzbach remained in Holland due to unresolved financial issues and tried to represent her interests with the help of a lawyer.

In Holland, after the conquest of Western Europe in 1940, she was required to wear the yellow star from May 1942. On November 21, 1942, Jenny Merzbach was arrested and taken to the police prison in Scheveningen, then to the Westerbork camp on December 16, 1942, and from there to Auschwitz just under a year later, on September 14, 1943. According to the memorial book of the Federal Archives, the date of death is September 17, 1943.

Auch die Tochter Anneliese, Anne-Lies, wie sie sich nannte, wurde Opfer des Holocaust.

Her daughter Anneliese, or Anne-Lies, as she called herself, also fell victim to the Holocaust She was a dietitian by profession and married to a non-Jew, from whom she later separated. She tried to get by with temporary jobs abroad. In 1938, she returned to Germany and was supported financially by her mother. In November 1940, Anneliese Schmidt was arrested on the grounds that she had not declared her income correctly. Since she was also allegedly unable to prove a permanent residence, she was deported to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. There, she was labeled “anti-social” on a list dated November 1, 1941.

From Ravensbrück, she was deported to the Bernburg an der Saale extermination center. According to the memorial book of the Federal Archives, Anneliese Schmidt died on May 1, 1942.

‚Photograph with regards from Anne-Lies to her brother Peter for Christmas 1921’.

Ihre Schwester Susanne (Susan Sabine) floh 1933 über Belgien nach Paris. Dort entging sie knapp einer Verhaftung durch die Gestapo. Sie färbte ihr Haar blond, änderte ihren Namen in Susanne Martine und beschaffte sich gefälschte Papiere. Susan heiratete einen nichtjüdischen Österreicher, mit dem sie nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg in dessen Heimatstadt Wien zog.

Die Stolpersteine wurden initiiert von Susan Merzbach, Tochter von Peter Merzbach, und finanziert von Constanze Buyken, Stephan Kremer, Otmar Schwarz und Petra Weber.

Angelika Rieber: Jenny Merzbach – nach Auschwitz verschleppt,
https://www.juedisches-leben-frankfurt.de/home/biographien-und-begegnungen/biographien-m-r/jenny-merzbach/

Bockenheim
Adalbertstraße 6 (formerly 6b)

Bernhardine Goldschmidt, née Katz
Date of birth: 13.5.1889
Deportation: 11.11.1941 Minsk
Date of death: unknown

Lieselotte Goldschmidt
Date of birth: 2.6.1914
Escape: 1936 South Africa

Elfriede Goldschmidt
Date of birth: 22.9.1917
Escape: 1938 USA

Bernhardine Goldschmidt was born in Eisenach, one of fourteen children of Henriette Katz née Seligmann (1857-1943) and the merchant Sally Katz, known as "Sandel" (1847-1919). She was married to Otto Goldschmidt (1888-1917), who was killed in action during World War I. Their two daughters, Lieselotte and Elfriede, were born in Eisenach in 1914 and 1917 respectively.

The Katz family had been running various businesses, trading in agricultural products in Eisenach since the early 1880s, amassing considerable wealth. Among other things, the family owned a 10-room property at Rennbahn 28 in Eisenach. Henriette Katz provided financial support to the young widow Bernhardine and her daughters after the death of her husband.

After the end of the First World War, Bernhardine Goldschmidt moved with her two young daughters from Eisenach to Frankfurt. From 1923 to 1931, the family lived on Sophienstraße 38. From 1932 to December 1936, they lived in a seven-room apartment on Adalbertstraße 6b, two rooms of which were sublet to help with living expenses.

Their daughter Elfriede attended the Varrentrapp School in Frankfurt from 1924 to 1928 and then the Philanthropin until April 1933. When the Nazis came to power, she was denied training as a state-certified kindergarten teacher, so she completed a commercial apprenticeship at Leon Meyer

& Co., an export business for jewelry and silverware, until 1936, and then worked there as a commercial clerk.

Lieselotte Goldschmidt attended the Victoriaschule (today Bettina Schule) and the Philanthropin Girls' Secondary School in Frankfurt. From April 1931 to March 1934, she completed a commercial apprenticeship at the Schwarzschild-Ochs silk store. There she rose from sales assistant to manager of the veil and scarf warehouse.

At the beginning of October 1936, she managed to flee via London and Southampton on the steamship "Winchester Castle" to Cape Town. In South Africa, she lived in Johannesburg, where she married Günther Morgenthal (1906-2005), who had also fled Frankfurt, on June 27, 1937 (see Stolperstein at Ludwig-Rehn-Straße 9).

After her daughter Lieselotte fled to South Africa, and with the oppressive feeling of the bureaucratic difficulties due to subletting to Jewish fellow citizens, Bernhardine Goldschmidt moved into a five-room apartment at Schleidenstraße 12 at the end of 1936.

Bernhardine Goldschmidt with her daughters Lieselotte and Elfriede.

Lieselotte Goldschmidt after her first day in school.

At the beginning of 1937, her mother, Henriette Katz was also forced to give up her apartment in Eisenach under pressure from anti-Semitic persecution. She moved to Frankfurt and initially lived with her daughter Bernhardine in Schleidenstraße. In September 1938, Henriette Katz moved in with Bernhardine's sister, Rosa Koopmann, and her brother-in-law, Moritz Koopmann, on the Niddastraße 46. Until 1936, they had run a large shoe store in Lüdenscheid and had also moved to Frankfurt after being forced to give it up in March 1938.

In August 1938, her daughter Elfriede was also able to flee Germany. Via Antwerp, she managed to escape to the United States on the steamship

Königstein operated by the Arnold Bernstein Line. She lived in New York from then on and married Felix Mannheimer (1907-1973) there in 1939.

Bernhardine Goldschmidt then moved to Oberweg 42 in September 1938 and finally, at the end of April 1941, to a 4-room apartment at Melemstraße 18 with her relative Klara (“Klärchen”) Kaufmann, née Weil. In the course of these moves, the family was forced to sell most of their valuable household furnishings (furniture, silver, jewelry, art objects) at a fraction of their value.

Bernhardine Goldschmidt was deported from Melemstraße 18 on November 11, 1941, during the second large deportation from Frankfurt to the Minsk ghetto, where she presumably died during the clearing of the ghetto on September 14, 1943. Her date of death was finally officially set at May 8, 1945.

Bernhardine Goldschmidt's mother, Henriette Katz, was deported on August 18, 1942, during the seventh large-scale deportation from Frankfurt to the Theresienstadt transit and concentration camp, where she was murdered on March 25, 1943. A Stolperstein has been laid for her at Rennbahn 28 in Eisenach.

Bernhardine Goldschmidt's sister Rosa Koopmann (born in 1884) and her brother-in-law Moritz Koopmann (born in 1875) had already been deported earlier, on November 22, 1941, during the third large deportation from Frankfurt to Riga, which was mistakenly considered their place of death and is therefore also listed on the name frieze of the “Neuer Börneplatz” memorial in Frankfurt. However, the transport did not reach its original destination and was diverted to Kaunas due to overcrowding in the Riga ghetto, where the Frankfurt deportees, probably including the Koopmanns, were murdered without exception on November 25, 1941. Their children Charlotte (1907-1996, married name Springer) and Fritz “Fred” (1909-1984) managed to flee to Palestine in 1934 and to the US in 1938, respectively. Stolpersteine have been laid for the family at Wilhelmstraße 36 in Lüdenscheid. Rosa's brother Karl Katz (born in 1893) survived Nazi persecution and lived in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Lieselotte Goldschmidt, now married with the name Morgenthal, worked in South Africa until 1943, initially as a commercial clerk for various companies, then until 1956 in the colonial goods store of her husband Günter Morgenthal. They had two children: a son, Ronald, born June 13, 1945, and a daughter, Beryl, born November 9, 1947. Lieselotte Morgenthal died on October 10, 2006.

Her sister Elfriede Mannheimer was unable to pursue her dream of becoming a kindergarten teacher in exile in the US due to her age and the language barrier. She died December 24, 2011, in New York.

The family of Lieselotte's husband Günther Morgenthal is commemorated by Stolpersteine at Ludwig-Rehn-Straße 9 in Sachsenhausen. Two of his siblings, Gertie and Margot, were murdered in the Shoah.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Beryl Mosselson (Toronto), daughter of Lieselotte Morgenthal, and financed by Petra Freutsmiedl, Kirsten Schiemann, and Sonja Stelz and family..

Nordend
Stettenstraße 4

Hans Ehrenfeld
Date of birth: October 18.10.1889
Imprisonment: 11.–21.11.1938, Buchenwald
Escape: December 1938, England
February 1939, USA

Kurt Ehrenfeld
Date of birth: 23.7.1921
Escape: 1937 England, 1939 USA

Alice Ehrenfeld, née Blüthenthal
Date of birth: 20.8.1894
Escape: December 1938 England,
February 1939 USA

Paul Ehrenfeld
Date of birth: 19.2.1924
Escape: December 1938 England,
February 1939 USA

Paul, Hans and Kurt Ehrenfeld (back), front: Alice Ehrenfeld and Klara Blüthenthal in Miami Beach

Hans Ehrenfeld ran the well-known Ehrenfeld department store at Zeil 104 in Frankfurt together with his brother Gustav. Their father, Ferdinand Ehrenfeld, had founded the business in 1874. After his death in 1910, his widow and two sons Hans and Gustav took over the business with their wives Alice and Malvina.

Hans and Alice Ehrenfeld had two sons. Kurt attended the Musterschule, while his younger brother Paul, after attending the Holzhausenschule, first went to the Hassel'sche Institut, a private school, and later to the Philanthropin in Hebelstraße, the liberal Jewish school in Frankfurt.

The family lived at Stettenstraße 4 in Frankfurt. They spent their weekends in a summer house in Königstein-Falkenstein.

Alice Ehrenfeld's mother, Klara Blüthenthal, lived nearby at Fürstenbergerstraße 171.

The Ehrenfeld brothers' department store on the Zeil was known far beyond Frankfurt for its special department for radios and photographs. Early on, it specialized in electrical goods. In 1909, the company participated in the International Aviation Exhibition in Frankfurt, where it exhibited free-flying model airplanes.

In the 1920s, the F. Ehrenfeld department store entered the radio business and soon became a leader in radio sales. It also set up a special department for photography and a photo lab.

The Nazi era had a profound impact on the lives of the family members in many ways. The department store suffered from a boycott by various suppliers and was forced to lay off staff.

The children's lives also changed. Kurt was forced to leave the Muster Schule and fled to England in 1937, where he was able to continue his education. After finishing school at the Philanthropin, his younger brother Paul was briefly employed as an apprentice at the Leitz company until the November pogroms of 1938.

Department store of the Ehrenfeld brothers at the Zeil.

On November 10, 1938, the brothers Hans and Gustav Ehrenfeld witnessed the department store being raided and vandalized. Along with many other Jewish men from Frankfurt, they were arrested, herded into the Festhalle, and deported to the Buchenwald concentration camp. Since Hans Ehrenfeld already had concrete plans to emigrate at that time, he was released a few weeks later on condition that he leave Germany. The department store was “Aryanized,” i.e., forcibly sold to a non-Jewish buyer.

The Ehrenfelds fled to the US via England. Hans Ehrenfeld managed to build a new business in Florida, which was later continued by his sons Kurt and Paul. Hans and Alice Ehrenfeld died in their new home in 1966. Their sons Paul and Kurt lived until 2008 and 2009, respectively.

Alice Ehrenfeld's mother, Klara Blüthenthal, was also able to flee to the USA via England with the Ehrenfelds. She died there in 1971. A Stolperstein in Fürstenbergerstraße 171 commemorates her.

The stumbling stones were initiated by Jill Enfield, daughter of Kurt Ehrenfeld, USA, and financed by Victoria Beschorner, Helga Matzel, Alexandra Stark, Silke Burmeister, and Matthias Benz.

Angelika Rieber: Familie Ehrenfeld/Kaufhaus Ehrenfeld - https://www.juedisches-leben-frankfurt.de/media/familie_ehrenfeld-enfield.pdf

Westend
Fürstenbergerstraße 171

Klara Blüthenthal, née Seligmann
Date of birth: 24.6.1870
Escape: December 1938 England, February 1939 USA

Klara Blüthenhal in Miami Beach.

Klara Seligmann, born in 1870, came from Homburg an der Saar, her husband Simon Blüthenthal from Münchweiler. The couple married in Homburg in 1892. At the time of their marriage, Simon Blüthenthal, a merchant, lived in Bingen. The couple's two daughters, Alice (1894) and Meta (1897), were born in Frankfurt. Simon Blüthenthal died in 1934, one year after the Nazi regime came to power. He is buried in the Jewish cemetery on Rat-Beil-Straße. After his death, Klara Blüthenthal moved temporarily from Sternstraße 28 to Fürstenbergerstraße 177, where her daughter Meta also lived. Later, she lived just a few houses away at Fürstenbergerstraße 171. Klara Blüthenthal was very close to her two daughters. They lived close to each other.

The older daughter, Alice (1894-1966), married the merchant Hans Ehrenfeld in Frankfurt in 1919, who ran the well-known Ehrenfeld department store on the Zeil together with his brother Gustav. (See the Stolperstein biography of the Ehrenfeld family, Stettenstraße 4).

The younger daughter, Meta (1907-1986), had been married since 1922 to the merchant Julius Vorchheimer, who came from Thüngen in Bavaria. Stolpersteine were placed in 2024 at Fürstenbergerstraße 177 for the Vorchheimer couple and their daughters Ilse and Lotte.

During the November pogroms of 1938, Klara Blüthenthal's sons-in-law, the Ehrenfeld brothers, as well as the Gerson and Julius Vorchheimer brothers, were arrested and deported to the Buchenwald concentration camp.

Since Hans Ehrenfeld already had concrete plans to emigrate at that time, he was released a few weeks later after the forced liquidation of the department store. The Ehrenfelds immediately began preparing their escape together with Klara Blüthenthal. On December 23, 1939, the "Konsulent" (Jewish legal representative) Max Cahn informed the “Devisenstelle” (foreign exchange office) that Klara Blüthenthal intended to emigrate to the United States with her daughter's family. He requested that a joint application be submitted to simplify the release of the household effects. At the end of December, the Ehrenfelds left Germany together with Klara Blüthenthal and went first to England, where their older son Kurt had already fled in 1937 to continue his education. On February 24, 1939, they boarded the SS Hamburg in Southampton and sailed for New York. The Vorchheimers followed two months later. Hamburg" from Southampton to New York. The Vorchheimers followed two months later. The formalities for forwarding the household goods were handled by Friedrich Stöhr, who was authorized by a special exemption from the "Gaurechtsamt" (district office) to represent the interests of the Ehrenfeld and Klara Blüthenthal families. The widow had no income

and no significant assets, Stöhr explained in a letter to the “Devisenstelle” (Foreign Exchange Office) on May 20, 1939.

In Florida, Hans Ehrenfeld succeeded in building up a new business, which was later continued by his sons Kurt and Paul. Klara Blüthenthal died there in 1971 at the age of 101.

The stumbling stone was initiated by Jill Enfield, great-granddaughter of Klara Blüthenthal, USA, and financed by Heinz-Theo Krönker.

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Dornbusch
Geigerstraße 4

Antonia “Tonie” Tauber, née Rosalie Stern
Date of birth: 2.12.1882
Deportation: 11.6.1942 “eastward”, probably Sobibór
Date of death: unknown

Rosalie Sidonie Stern was born in Aschaffenburg, daughter of the merchant Abraham Stern and his wife Regina, née Stern.

On December 11, 1902, she married Moritz Tauber (born February 23, 1870) in Innsbruck. He was born in Vienna and converted from Judaism to Christianity, being baptized by a Catholic military priest on December 5, 1891. He took the first name Friedrich (called Fritz). He served in the Austrian military with the rank of captain, was wounded at the beginning of World War I, and died of his injuries on August 31, 1914.

Rosalie Sidonie also converted from Judaism to Christianity, gave up the name Rosalie, and chose Antonia as her new first name. She was called Tonie.

Two children were born from the marriage of Tonie and Fritz Tauber: Kurt Bede (born April 25, 1907, in Vienna) and Antonie Ida Wilhelmine Gisela Henriette, called Lella (born June 6, 1908, in Trento). Both had Austrian citizenship.

Tonie Tauber lived in various places: Frankfurt in Germany, Fischamend, Igls, Linz, and Baden near Vienna in Austria. On September 3, 1920, she lived at Fürstenbergerstraße 145 in Frankfurt and worked as a commercial clerk. She also received a widow's pension from Austria. In September 1927, she moved to Geigerstraße 4. The houses at Geigerstraße 2 to 20 belonged to the Gemeinnützige Heimstätten AG (GEHAG), a trade union cooperative organization founded in 1924

by August Ellinger, which was committed to social housing. GEHAG was incorporated into the "NS-Arbeitsfront" (Nazi labor front) in 1933. Tonie Tauber lived at Geigerstraße 4 with her son Kurt and their maid Marie.

Tonie Tauber.

Her daughter Lella had married the Dutch cellist and concertmaster at the Frankfurt Opera, Ary Schuyer (born in The Hague in 1884), on April 4, 1927. As a Jew, he was dismissed after the Nazis came to power in 1933. He was able to flee to Palestine in 1939.

Her son Kurt Tauber worked as a merchant in international metal trading for the Adler company and was an extremely active sportsman in his spare time. Since both his parents had converted, he considered himself a Catholic. He married Luise Heinzel (born July 16, 1910, in Frankfurt), who was not Jewish. The couple had two daughters in Frankfurt, Ingrid (born September 18, 1937) and Konstanze (born December 4, 1938).

Despite their conversion to Christianity, Tonie Tauber and her son Kurt were considered Jewish under the Reich Citizenship Law of 1935 because of their Jewish ancestry and were therefore subject to anti-Semitic persecution.

Since Geigerstraße was named after the former Jewish city councilor Dr. Berthold Geiger, the Nazis erased this name. From 1935 onwards, the street was called Heussenstammstraße.

In August 1937, Tonie Tauber was forced to move to a so-called “ghetto house” at Reuterweg 94. In houses owned by Jews, people persecuted for being Jewish were forcibly housed in cramped conditions with other persecuted people. In Reuterweg, she lived with Selma Goldstein, a widow of almost the same age.

In 1938, Kurt Tauber was able to flee Germany with the help of his non-Jewish superior. He was sent on a business trip to England on September 1, 1938, where Kurt Tauber remained. His wife Luise and their two daughters – daughter Konstanze was born after Kurt Tauber's escape – had to stay in Frankfurt. According to Nazi ideology, both daughters were “Mischlinge” (half-breeds) and threatened with persecution. Luise Tauber remained with them in the house built by her grandfather at Waldschmidtstraße 55. She was probably also protected by the prominence of her father, the city planning officer Gottlieb Heinzel, who was married to Berta, née Herrmann, and died in Frankfurt in 1955. Nevertheless, Luise Tauber lived in constant fear until 1945 that she and her children would fall victim to Nazi persecution. It was not until 1946 that they were able to reunite with her husband and their father in England.

Tonie Tauber was forced to move again. In 1939, she is documented as living in another “ghetto house” at Böhmerstraße 60. In October, she had to move again and now lived on Bürgerstraße 19 on

the third floor with Fränkel. She had stored her furniture at “Vitus Lauer & Co.,” as evidenced by a receipt dated July 19, 1937. The Gestapo had confiscated her possessions from Reuterweg 94.

At Bürgerstraße 19, she received instructions from the Gestapo to report to the collection camp at the Frankfurt wholesale market hall by 7 p.m. on June 10, 1942. From there, Tonie Tauber was deported eastward on June 11, 1942, along with more than 600 other people, probably via Lublin to the Sobibór extermination camp. When and where she was murdered is not known.

Kurt and Luise Tauber had two more children in England, two sons born in 1948 and 1951. Kurt Tauber died in Greenwich in 1984. Their daughter Ingrid was involved in the preparations for the laying of the Stolperstein for her grandmother. She died on April 30, 2025.

The Stolperstein was initiated by Veronica Pasteur, London, daughter of Tonie Tauber's granddaughter Ingrid, and financed by Inge Bramann.

Westend
Schumannstraße 10

Henry Rothschild
Date of birth: 14.7.1870
Date of death: 4.7.1936

Bertha Karoline Rothschild,
née Merzbach
Date of birth: 8.7.1877
Escape: 1939 England

Stella Luise Rothschild
Date of birth: 21.9.1906
Escape: 1933 England, France,
1937 Holland
Deportation: 1944 Westerbork,
Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, liberated

Hilde Rothschild
Date of birth: 16.5.1914
Escape: 1933 England, France,
1939 England

Friedel Rothschild
Date of birth: 15.8.1918
Escape: 1933 England

Catherine Mentzel
Date of birth: 5.1.1937 (in Paris)
Hidden: 1944 Fronton, France

Henri Mentzel
Date of birth: 31.5.1939 (in Paris)
Hidden 1944 near Toulouse, France

Heinrich Gotthelf Rothschild was born in Heilbronn in 1870. His father, Wilhelm Rothschild (1836–1906), was a merchant who came from Hochhausen on the Neckar River. His mother was Stella, née Schott (1840–1926), daughter of Rabbi Leopold Schott. Henry Rothschild had six siblings. He served as a non-commissioned officer in World War I. Together with his brothers Albert and Max, he built up the family business “J. Adler Junior, Eisen, Alteisen, Metalle, Rohprodukte,

Chemikalien" (J. Adler Junior, iron, scrap iron, metals, raw products, chemicals) into an internationally active company. He later officially adopted the first name Henry.

Henry Rothschild and Bertha Merzbach.

Henry Rothschild.

Bertha Rothschild

In 1901, he married Bertha Karoline Merzbach. She was born in Offenbach in 1877 and was one of five daughters of Hermann Merzbach (1843–1904), co-owner of the banking house S. Merzbach, and Josephine Merzbach, née Steinhardt (1851–1931). The couple had four daughters in Frankfurt: Stella Luise, Charlotte, Hilde, and Friedel. The family initially lived at Im Trutz Frankfurt 37 and, from around 1910, at Klettenbergstraße 8. After the First World War, they moved into their own apartment building at Schumannstraße 10.

Henry, Hilde, Charlotte, Bertha, Friedel and Stella Luise Rothschild, about 1919.

Henry and Bertha Rothschild ran an open, hospitable household and were culturally and socially active. For example, Henry Rothschild financed the home for unmarried mothers founded by Bertha Pappenheim. He also supported Leo Baeck, Martin Buber, and the philosopher Franz Rosenzweig, for whom he had the upper floor of Schumannstraße 10 converted into an apartment. Several times, he was president of the charitable Hermann Cohen Lodge of the B'nai B'rith Order.

The eldest daughter, Stella Luise Rothschild, known as Lou, attended high school in Frankfurt, interrupted by a one-year stay in Italy. After studying history in Freiburg for a year, she met the lawyer Franz Neumann, with whom she moved to Berlin in 1933 and whom she married.

Stella Luise, Hilde and Charlotte Rothschild, 1915.

Stolpersteine were laid in 2022 for her sister Charlotte, known as Lo, her husband Albert Mentzel, and their daughter Ruth. Her detailed biography can be found in the Stolperstein documentation. She attended the Viktoriaschule (now Bettinaschule), the School of Applied Arts in Frankfurt, and then went to the Bauhaus in Dessau, where she met the artist Albert Mentzel (later Flocon) and married him in 1931. Their first daughter, Ruth, was born in 1932.

Her two younger sisters, Hildegard Nora Recha, known as Hilde or Hi, and Hanna Elfriede, known as Friedel or Fri, also attended the Viktoriaschule until 1933.

When the Nazis came to power in 1933, the family was torn apart. The situation was particularly dangerous for the two older sisters, Stella Luise and Charlotte, because of their political ties to social democratic and communist circles. Stella Luise was the first to flee to London in 1933. After Hilde and Friedel were expelled from the Viktoria School, their parents decided to send them out of the country to be safe. They also sent them to London, where they attended Kingsley School, a boarding school in Belsize Park.

Charlotte fled to Paris with her husband Albert Mentzel and daughter Ruth, which Stella Luise also chose as her next place of emigration in the summer of 1933.

Meanwhile, Henry Rothschild worked in Frankfurt to improve escape routes for Jews fleeing Nazi Germany. In 1936, he died of cancer at the age of 65. Bertha Rothschild was left alone in Frankfurt.

Hilde began studying chemistry in England in 1934, but after two years she went to Paris to work as a secretary. There she met Ernest Ettinghausen (1913–2001), who was born in Munich. She married him in England in 1938. In May 1938, the couple traveled to Frankfurt for a short visit to Bertha. Ernest's uncle, the Düsseldorf rabbi Max Eschelbacher, performed the Jewish wedding ceremony at the house at Schumannstraße 10. When the war began, Hilde returned to England, and Ernest followed in June 1940. Ernest, and his brother, Walter, worked at Bletchley Park, the top-secret home of the World War Two Codebreakers, translating into English the decrypted German orders to U-boats.

Hilde in Paris, 1936.

After many bureaucratic obstacles and the almost complete plundering of her assets by the “Reichsfluchtsteuer” (Reich flight tax), Bertha Rothschild also managed to flee to England to join her daughters in 1939, i.e. only after the November pogroms. The house in Schumannstraße had to be sold at a loss and went to a director named M. Roscher from St. Gangolf.

Meanwhile, Stella Luise divorced in France and married Ernst Freudenberg, who was originally from Austria. She went with him to Amsterdam to set up a button factory. However, when the German Wehrmacht invaded the Netherlands, she was caught up in the persecution and found herself trapped. In 1942, the Nazi occupiers established the “Judenrat” (Jewish Council) to organize the persecution of Jews. There she worked as a typist and could help to save many Jews from deportation to German concentration camps. Towards the end of the war, she and her husband Ernst were interned in the Westerborg transit camp and deported to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1944. Both survived the inhumane conditions until the camp was liberated by the British.

Her sister Charlotte Mentzel, who had also fled to France, initially lived with her husband and daughter near Paris. Two more children, Catherine and Henri, were born there. After the German invasion, the family fled to unoccupied France in 1940, settling in Pibrac near Toulouse. The children were initially able to attend school there.

Charlotte Mentzel with Ruth, Catherine and Henri, 1940.

Albert Mentzel/Flocon joined the Foreign Legion (until 1941) and was later active in the Resistance. He was arrested and freed by the Resistance in 1944. When the SS division “Das Reich” reached Pibrac, the children were baptized and hidden: Catherine with a winegrower in Froton, Henri in a Catholic convent in the area, and Ruth in a boarding school in Figeac. While Catherine and Henri were liberated there, their mother Charlotte and sister Ruth were arrested by the SS in Toulouse, interned in Drancy on June 25, 1944, deported to Auschwitz a month later, and murdered there.

Since 2022, Stolpersteine commemorate Charlotte, Ruth and Albert Mentzel at Schumannstraße 10. Another Stolperstein lies in front of the school in Pibrac, which now holds an annual poetry competition called “Ruth Mentzel.”

Charlotte Mentzel with Ruth, Henri and Catherine, the last photograph, 1943.

After the war, the survivors tried to rebuild their families and their lives.

Stella Luise and her husband Ernst Freudenberg returned to Amsterdam, severely scarred by their time in the concentration camp. The marriage broke down and Stella Luise married Heinz Graumann (1900–1990) in London in 1947. His son Michael had been murdered by the Nazis and his wife Elli subsequently took her own life. Stella Louise and Heinz Graumann had two children: Marianne (1947) and Peter (1949). In 1948, they emigrated to the USA.

Catherine and Henri, traumatized by the loss of their mother and sister, spent the post-war years in various children's homes until

their father and his second wife were able to take them back. Albert Mentzel became a prominent graphic artist and art professor in France under the name Albert Flocon. Catherine married the Spanish communist Manuel Ballestero (1927-2020) and had a daughter, Alicia (1961). She moved to Paris, worked as a teacher, and now lives with her daughter in the French Jura. Henri went to the US, Israel, and Germany, and worked in a kibbutz. He had two daughters, Sophie and Laure, with his wife Marianne (née Franck, 1947). He died in 2006. Although neither of them ever lived at Schumannstraße 10, their Stolpersteine are located there together with those of their family to commemorate them.

Hilde and Ernest Ettinghausen remained in England after the war. They had three children: Henry (1940), Daniel (1944), and Simon (1955). Hilde Ettinghausen died on January 25, 1991, in London.

The youngest daughter, Friedel, became a Montessori teacher in England and later worked as a secretary for Labour Party leader Gaitskell and UNESCO director Julian Huxley in Paris. She married Stuttgart-born (Adolph) Al Lichtenberg (1912–1998), a Jewish refugee who was an American GI stationed in London. They moved to the US in 1948. The couple emigrated to the United States, and Friedel worked as an administrative assistant in several hospitals. They had two children, Judith (1948) and Frank (1951). She died on October 26, 2000, in New York.

Bertha Rothschild, who had managed to escape the Nazis penniless in 1939 just before the war began, settled with her daughter Friedel in the London borough of Hampstead. She learned to type in English and took a job. There was virtually no compensation for the property, house, and company shares stolen from her and her family. She died of heart disease on September 8, 1951.

Stolpersteine will also be laid for the family of Henry's brother David Rothschild, who lived “around the corner” at Bockenheimer Landstraße 124, and for the family of Bertha's cousin Jenny Merzbach at Zeppelinallee 35.

The stumbling stones were initiated by Peter Graumann, son of Stella Luise Rothschild. They were financed by the current residents of Schumannstraße 10: Renata Berlin and Thomas Klein, Sabine and Martin Roth, Heike and Elena Wagner, Gisela Kramer and Walter Ahrens, Jessica Sänger and Uwe Pfeiffer, Carolin Klosterkamp and Maximilian Silbernagel, Caroline Pötsch-Hennig and Dr. Jochen Hennig.

Ruth, Henri and Catherine, painting by their father Albert Mentzel/Flocon.

Westend
Bockenheimer Landstraße 114

Dr. Kurt Erwin Stavenhagen
Date of birth: 28.11.1899
Escape: 1936 Italy, Holland, 1940 Mexico

Ruth Stavenhagen
Date of birth: 17.6.1928
Escape: 1936 Italy, Holland, 1940 Mexico

Lore Stavenhagen, née Grünbaum
Date of birth: 13.8.1905
Escape: 1936 Italy, Holland, 1940 Mexico

Rolf Emil Stavenhagen
Date of birth: 29.8.1932
Escape: 1936 Italy, Holland, 1940 Mexico

Kurt Erwin Stavenhagen was born in Frankfurt in 1899. His parents were Julius Moritz Stavenhagen (1862–1936), a jeweler from Hamburg, and Sophie Sichel (1876–1943) from Frankfurt, a daughter of Swiss banker Jacob Sichel (1850–1905). Kurt Stavenhagen had a sister, Erna Stavenhagen (1898–1950).

The Stavenhagen family was wealthy, belonging to the upper middle class. They lived in a magnificent villa at Bockenheimer Landstraße 114. Julius Stavenhagen had acquired the building in 1907. The large garden of the property bordered the property at Palmengartenstraße 9, where his parents-in-law lived. Kurt Stavenhagen graduated from high school in 1916 and enlisted as a war volunteer at the age of seventeen.

As he already knew how to drive, he was deployed as a truck driver in northern Italy. He was awarded the Iron Cross. He had been an avid collector since childhood. In occupied Italy, he found the first ring in an impressive collection of antique rings – a collection he maintained until the end of his life.

After the war, he studied economics and psychology in his hometown and earned a doctorate. He then joined his father's business, the jewelry store “Stavenhagen & Co. KG” at Taunusstraße 7. In his spare time, he was an amateur boxer and nature lover. He paddled through almost all the rivers in southern Germany. He was passionate about literature and wrote poetry under the pseudonym Peter Sturmbusch.

In 1926, he married Lore Rosalie Grünbaum, who was also from Frankfurt. Her father was Nathan Grünbaum (1865–1934), a grain merchant from Seligenstadt. Her mother was Flora Grünbaum, née Freund (1879–1967), who was born in Vienna. Lore Grünbaum had an older brother, Manfred (1903–1965). She enjoyed going to school and graduated from secondary school. As was customary for women at the time, she was not allowed to study at university. She liked ballet and classical music and was considered a modern woman for her time.

Kurt and Lore Stavenhagen settled at Bockenheimer Landstraße 114 and started their own family with their daughter Ruth and son Rolf Emil. In October 1933, Kurt Stavenhagen took over the management of the family business as a personally liable partner. The business was long-established in Frankfurt and known throughout the region. As a result, it was boycotted early on by the new National Socialist rulers and their followers. A smear campaign in 1935 publicly called for a boycott. The business was forcibly liquidated in January 1937.

Daughter Ruth Stavenhagen later recalled being chased by children in Hitler Youth uniforms on her way home from school. Afterwards, these children killed her rabbit, which was kept in a hutch in the front garden of the house. Acquaintances and neighbors increasingly distanced themselves from the family. However, there were also people who helped them and kept things for them that they got back after the war – such as the silver cutlery, which was kept by the caretaker's family.

The Stavenhagens fled to Genoa in 1936. However, they could not stay there because of anti-Semitism in Italy. They moved on to the Netherlands. Lore Stavenhagen's brother Manfred Grünbaum had been living in Amsterdam since 1936, where he had married a Dutch wife, Rita van Leeuwe (1910–2006).

Grandmother Sophie Stavenhagen and her mother Hermine Sichel, née Schwabacher (1858–1943), initially remained in Frankfurt. In 1939, they too decided to flee to Amsterdam. Before doing so, they were forced to sell the family property to the city of Frankfurt and various private individuals. Among those who profited from the forced sale was a baker named F. Wüst from Saarbrücken.

In view of the political developments, the Stavenhagen family decided to leave Europe for good. Their new destination was Mexico. Kurt Stavenhagen had already traveled through North and South America in 1924. He had also maintained friendly relations for many years with the Diener brothers, Mexican jewelers. In addition, he owned shares in a muscovite mine in the state of Oaxaca. This enabled him to identify himself to the Mexican authorities as an investor and obtain entry papers for himself and his family.

On May 9, 1940, the family boarded the steamship Delftdijk in Antwerp, a freighter with only ten passenger seats. Grandmother Flora Grünbaum was also on board. Grandmother Sophie Stavenhagen, however, remained in Amsterdam because she was unable to persuade her 82-year-old mother to continue the journey. Although both had visas for Mexico, Sophie Stavenhagen could not bring herself to leave her mother behind. Both were murdered in the Sobibor extermination camp in March 1943. Stolpersteine have been laid in their memory at Palmengartenstraße 9.

Just one day after the Delftdijk set sail, Germany invaded the Netherlands, marking the beginning of the French campaign. The ship was bombed several times by the Luftwaffe, and the family spent many hours in mortal fear. Only after a several-week odyssey did they reach the port of New York City on June 10, 1940. Years later, it became known that the ship had transported part of the Dutch gold reserves to Canada.

The family spent a few more weeks in New York City. To get an idea of Mexico, Lore Stavenhagen visited an exhibition of contemporary Mexican art.

The Stavenhagen family with Rolf, Kurt, Lore and Ruth in Mexico City.

When she returned, she said she didn't want to move to a country where women painted like that – she was referring to Frida Kahlo. Later, they became close friends.

From New York, the journey continued overland – more than 4,300 kilometers. They moved into a house at 95 Calle de Cuernavaca. Kurt Stavenhagen had no financial reserves, and his shares in the mine proved worthless. His only capital was a precious diamond necklace. Fortunately, he quickly found a buyer: the brother of the incumbent Mexican president. Kurt Stavenhagen managed to establish himself as a jeweler and art dealer and secure a solid financial income. For example, he designed jewelry made of silver and precious stones, which enjoyed great popularity in Europe and the US in the 1960s.

Kurt Stavenhagen with one of his "puppets", 1982.

He became a prominent collector of pre-Columbian art and cultivated close contacts with artists such as Diego Rivera, Juan O'Gorman, Henry Moore, and Fernando Gamboa. His collection was exhibited internationally and contributed significantly to the worldwide recognition of Mexican culture. In 1976, it was also on display in Germany. Kurt Stavenhagen died on January 15, 1984, at the age of 84.

Lore Stavenhagen was a housewife and took care of the family. Later, she became interested in physiotherapy and health promotion. In the 1960s, she returned to university and specialized in respiratory therapy. She died on September 11, 1981, at the age of 76.

Their daughter Ruth Stavenhagen studied psychology in Mexico and started a family with Nikolas Bodek (1925–1999). The couple had three children. She died on January 11, 2003, at the age of 71. Their son Rolf (Rodolfo) Stavenhagen studied in Chicago and Mexico and earned his doctorate in Paris. As a professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, he became a leading sociologist and anthropologist. In 2001, he became the first UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He married twice and had four children. He died on November 5, 2016, in Cuernavaca at the age of 84.

His grandchildren are continuing the family tradition of commitment to cultural and social issues in Mexico. They maintain connections to promote art, science, and education, partly in the context of the artworks collected by Kurt Stavenhagen. This extraordinary collection is now on display at the Museum of Tlatelolco in Mexico City.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Bernardo Mertes, Frankfurt, and financed by him and Isabel von Köppen-Mertes, as well as by Bernardo Lopez Bertram.

Westend
Bockenheimer Landstraße 124

Dr. David Rothschild
Date of birth: 30.3.1875
Date of death: 7.8.1936

Stephanie Rothschild,
née Abeles
Date of birth: 24.10.1889
Escape: 18.6.1938 Sweden

Liselot Rothschild
Date of birth: 11.2.1913
Escape: 1935 Sweden

Max Wilhelm Rothschild
Date of birth: 14.3.1915
Escape: December 1934 England

Hans Heinrich Rothschild
Date of birth: 15.9.1918
Escape: June 1937 Sweden

David Rothschild was born in Frankfurt, the fifth child of Wilhelm Rothschild (1836-1906), a merchant from Hochhausen near Karlsruhe, and his wife Stella, née Schott (1840-1926), the daughter of a rabbi from Randegg. In the early 1870s, the Rothschild family moved from Heilbronn to Frankfurt. There, Wilhelm Rothschild and his brother-in-law Joseph Adler founded a "raw materials trading company," which over the years developed into an internationally active scrap metal business and eventually into the steelworks "Adler jr."


Dr. David Rothschild.

David Rothschild attended the Kaiser Friedrich Gymnasium (now Heinrich von Gagern Gymnasium), where he graduated in 1893. From 1893 to 1898, he studied medicine in Heidelberg, Giessen, and Würzburg, attending lectures by Wilhelm Röntgen, among others. After completing his doctorate and assistantship in Padua, David Rothschild settled in Bad Soden in 1889/99 as a specialist in lung and heart diseases, practiced as a spa doctor from 1899 to 1916, ran an "X-ray institute" and the "Villa Rothschild" spa guesthouse. He was also a member of the local council and the lay judges' court, and during the First World War he was senior physician at the reserve military hospital in Kronthal/Taunus.

On May 22, 1912, David Rothschild married Stephanie Abeles in Bad Soden, one of three children of Frankfurt merchant Maximilian Abeles (1858-1915) and his wife Sophie, née Collin (1856-1924). Between 1913 and 1918, David and Stephanie Rothschild had three children: Liselot, Max, and Hans.


Stephanie Rothschild with her children Max, Liselot and Hans (from the left).

In 1917, the family bought a spacious villa at 124 Bockenheimer Landstraße in Frankfurt. David Rothschild set up his medical practice on the ground floor, while the first floor was his private residence.

David Rothschild with his three children 1919 in Frankfurt.

David Rothschild's interests were not limited to medicine. Even as a student, he was enthusiastic about collecting Baroque figurines. He was also involved in soccer and club sports. Shortly after the final match of the German soccer championship, he took over as chairman of FSV Frankfurt 1899 e.V. in 1925, a position he held until 1928. He modernized the club's public relations work in a lasting way. For example, he ensured that the FSV's match against Hanau 93 for the Main championship in 1926 was one of the first soccer games to be broadcast live on radio. David Rothschild was also a member of the charitable Frankfurt Lodge of the B'nai B'rith Order, the Senckenberg Natural History Society, and an advisory board member of the municipal committee for the fight against tuberculosis.

No information is available about Liselot and Hans Rothschild's school education. Their son Max attended the Varrentrapp Elementary School, then the Goethe Gymnasium, where he graduated in 1933.

The Rothschilds in front of their car in Frankfurt.

The Rothschild and Abeles families maintained close ties with each other, as well as with Martin Buber, Franz Rosenzweig, Leo Baeck, and their families. On Shabbat, the Rothschild family attended the synagogue at Unterlindau 23, which was led by Rabbi Dr. Jakob Horovitz.

The anti-Semitic measures that accompanied the National Socialists' rise to power prompted the Rothschild family to consider fleeing Germany, a decision driven primarily by Stephanie Rothschild. Their daughter Liselot, who had been married to Frankfurt merchant Willy Lehmann since May 10, 1934, fled to Sweden with her husband in 1935. Max Rothschild, who had worked for the Frankfurt company Adler & Neumann after graduating from high school, fled via Belgium to England in December 1934, where he was initially unable to obtain a permanent residence permit. From 1935 to 1937, he worked for a small shoe factory in London.

On March 8, 1936, Liselot (Lehmann-) Rothschild's first child (Inga) was born in Stockholm. To finance the trip to his daughter and also his planned final escape, David Rothschild sold parts of his Baroque collection. In the summer of 1936, he traveled with his wife to Stockholm, where he suffered a heart attack on August 7, 1936, and died the same day.

At that time, his son Hans was still officially employed by the company “Hermann Lehmann & Co” at Mainzer Landstraße 65 in Frankfurt. In fact, he had been working mainly in Stockholm for his brother-in-law Willy Lehmann since 1934. In mid-1937, he fled to Sweden for good.

Stephanie Rothschild returned to Frankfurt in the summer of 1936 to settle the inheritance matters of the company Adler jr. and to sell her house. The latter proved difficult because Gauleiter Sprenger lived in the immediate neighborhood and did not tolerate Jewish neighbors. For this reason, Stephanie had to sell her house far below its value, along with the furniture, other valuables, and a piece of land in Bad Soden. She was not allowed to take the parts of her Baroque collection that were still in her possession, as they were considered “German cultural property.” From May 30, 1938, until the day she fled to Sweden (June 18, 1938), Stephanie Rothschild found refuge with her sister Lizzie and her husband Siegmund Carl Merzbach at Bockenheimer Landstraße 72.

The Rothschild’s house at Bockenheimer Landstraße 124.

In the same year, Max Rothschild found employment with Walter Neumann and his newly established company “Newman Slippers” in Blackburn (Lancashire, England). Neumann – nicknamed “Schlappe Stinnes” – came from Frankfurt, where he was a successful entrepreneur and, since 1925, a member and important patron of the Eintracht Frankfurt soccer club.

Max Rothschild worked for Neumann's company until he emigrated to Canada in 1951. Stockholm became the permanent home of Stephanie, Liselot, and Hans Rothschild. A few months before her death, Stephanie Rothschild moved to Switzerland; she died in Locarno in 1988.

Liselot died on November 5, 2003, in Lugano, Switzerland; her husband Willy Lehmann had already died in Stockholm on June 7, 1949. Max Rothschild lived in Canada from 1951 with his wife Eva and their children David, Eric, and Susan. He died in Montreal in 1970. Hans Rothschild, married to Sibylle, née Rothschild, died in Stockholm.

Stephanie Rothschild's brother Moritz Abeles fled to London and then to Brazil in 1940. From 1946, he lived in the US with his wife Elsa and daughter Annemarie Rose. Elsa, Stephanie Rothschild's half-sister, was murdered in Auschwitz concentration camp in 1942, and her husband Adolf Theilhaber was murdered in the Theresienstadt ghetto in 1942. Margaretha Marum, also a half-sister of Stephanie Rothschild, was deported from Hamburg to Riga-Jungfernhof in December 1941 and murdered there.

David Rothschild's brother Max Meier, his wife Minnie, née Flesch, and their son Wilhelm were murdered in March 1944 in the Auschwitz concentration camp. His sister Leopoldine fled to

London (died 1940), his brother Henry died in July 1936 in Frankfurt (his wife Bertha, née Merzbach, fled to London), His brother Albert Aron died in Frankfurt in May 1938 (his wife Lisbeth Sophie, née Merzbach, fled to London), his sister Caroline and her Italian husband and their three children escaped the Nazis, and his sister Recha fled to France after being imprisoned in Germany for several years from 1933 onwards for her political activities, surviving in various hiding places.

Stolpersteine will also be laid there for the family of David Rothschild's brother Henry Rothschild, who lived not far away at Schumannstraße 10.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by Max Rothschild's son David W. Rothschild (Montreal, Canada). They were financed by FSV Frankfurt 1899 e.V.

Westend
Kronberger Straße 7

Alfred David Falkenstein
Date of birth: 9.12.1896
Deportation: 22.11.1941 Kaunas
Date of death: 25.11.1941 Kaunas Fort IX

Alice Falkenstein, née Heppenheimer
Date of birth: 4.7.1896
Deportation: 22.11.1941 Kaunas
Date of death: 25.11.1941 Kaunas Fort IX

Alfred David Falkenstein was born in Frankfurt am Main, the son of merchant Heinrich Falkenstein and Auguste, née Ochs. He grew up with his older sister Henny Betty (married name Bermann), who was born in 1891. When their daughter was born, the family lived at Ostendstraße 7, and when their son was born, they moved to Am Tiergarten 29. The family became the owners of the apartment building at Am Tiergarten 42 and moved into the ground floor apartment there in 1904. Like his father, Alfred became a merchant. He served as a soldier in World War I from 1914 to 1918 and was wounded. After the war, he was recognized as 30 percent disabled. In the 1920s and 1930s, he lived in Nuremberg and worked as a watch salesman.

Alice Heppenheimer was born in Frankfurt am Main, the daughter of merchant Joseph Heppenheimer and his second wife Emma, née Baer. She had a younger sister, Selma (born in 1900, married Lewin), and five half-siblings from her father's first marriage. Her father was co-owner of the company “Gebrüder Heppenheimer” (Heppenheimer Brothers), founded in 1877 at Dominikanergasse 3/5ptr. u. 1. (address book 1899), a wholesale business dealing in raw materials, scrap iron, metals, and building materials with a warehouse at the Ostbahnhof. When Alice was born, the family lived at Am Tiergarten 20, later in Wittelsbacher Allee and at Röderbergweg 30. Like other members of her family, Alice was probably a pupil at the Philanthropin. In 1917, she moved to Nuremberg, presumably to train at what was then the only art school in Germany that admitted women. In Nuremberg, she married the merchant Ludwig Adler on May 25, 1920. In 1926, Alice Adler opened a studio for applied arts in Nuremberg, and in 1927 she registered in the Nuremberg trade register with a workshop for ladies' hats and in 1929 with a textile shop.

Alice Adler (later Falkenstein), at left behind her first husband Ludwig Adler during a holiday on Norderney, 1920‘s; at right her sister Selma.

In 1930, she returned to Frankfurt and initially lived with her sister Selma as well as Selma's husband Leo Lewin at Schaumainkai 5a, where her mother also lived. After completing her training as a dressmaker, she was able to open her own dressmaking workshop in her own apartment at Bleichstraße 70 I. in 1933. Her marriage was dissolved in the same year. In 1934, Alice Adler moved to Goetheplatz 10 and then to Töpfengasse 9.

Auguste Falkenstein died in Frankfurt in March 1936. Alfred Falkenstein and his sister Henny Bermann inherited half of the apartment building at Am Tiergarten 42 each.

On October 26, 1936, Alice Adler and Alfred Falkenstein married in Frankfurt. It was the second marriage for both of them. After their marriage, they moved into an apartment on the first floor of Kronberger Straße 7, where Alice continued to run her dressmaking business under the name Falkenstein-Adler.

During the November pogroms of 1938, Alfred Falkenstein was arrested and imprisoned in the Buchenwald concentration camp. After his release, he was ill for a long time as a result of the inhumane conditions of his imprisonment. He and his sister were forced to sell their apartment building at Am Tiergarten 42 to a non-Jewish buyer on December 20, 1938. Alice was forced to close her dressmaking workshop at the end of the year. On June 27, 1939, Alfred Falkenstein was arrested again. The charge was "Rassenschande" (racial defilement); he was alleged to have violated the “Blutschutzgesetz" (Blood Protection Law) of September 15, 1935, in Nuremberg in 1935, i.e., to have had intimate contact with a non-Jewish woman.

On July 12, 1939, Alice Falkenstein sent a letter, still with the return address Kronberger Straße 7, to the Finanzamt-Ost (East Tax Office) requesting a deferral of income and sales tax until September 1, 1939, and described their situation: "Since Alfred Israel Falkenstein has had no income since September 30, 1938, and Alice Sara Falkenstein since December 31, 1938, the little assets we had left have been completely depleted, and we have even had to sell some of our furniture in order to survive. However, we have been told that we will receive approval in approximately 4–6 weeks for the sale of a house in December, which will provide us with a few thousand marks. As soon as approval is granted, all taxes will be paid, and I kindly request a deferral until then."

During his imprisonment, Alfred Falkenstein had an English textbook brought to him so that he could continue preparing for his planned emigration to the USA. From July 1939, his wife Alice was allowed to bring him food to prison to save on detention costs. On September 11, Alice and her sister Henny Bermann received a visitation permit for their imprisoned husband and brother.

Although the arrest warrant issued by the Frankfurt am Main District Court on June 27, 1939, was revoked on October 13, 1939, at the request of the Nuremberg public prosecutor's office, and Alfred Falkenstein was released from pretrial detention, he was not set free. He was transferred directly to the Frankfurt Gestapo, which held him in the Frankfurt police prison for several more weeks until October 30, 1939. In order to secure her husband's release, Alice Falkenstein wrote a letter to the Frankfurt Gestapo on October 19, 1939: "My husband served on the front lines from the beginning to the end of World War I. He has the Front Fighter's Badge. After that, he volunteered for the Freikorps in Munich to fight the Spartacists." She concluded by pointing out that she and her husband had registration number 11.196 for emigration to America.

Alice had also had to give up her own apartment and moved in with her sister Selma Lewin at Böhmerstraße 60, where she lived with her husband Lippmann Lewin and her mother Emma Heppenheimer (Stolpersteine were laid there for them in 2014). Alice and Alfred Falkenstein lived there after his release from prison until they also had to give up this apartment on November 30, 1940. They moved in as subtenants in the apartment of Jewish tenant Georg Simon at Oberlindau

108, while Emma Heppenheimer and Selma Lewin were assigned to the house of a Jewish owner at Eschersheimer Landstraße 39.

At the end of November 1939, the Falkensteins had to set up a security account and were no longer able to freely dispose of their money or the proceeds from the sale of their house. They had to register for forced labor. Alfred Falkenstein was forced to work as a laborer in a Frankfurt nursery, and Alice was employed as a seamstress at the company “Carl Winnen, Berufskleidung” at Zeil 19 and, from August 1941, at the company “W. Schleicher Lederwarenfabrikation” at Vilbeler Straße 3.

All efforts by the Falkenstein couple to emigrate to the US ultimately failed. On November 22, 1941, Alfred and Alice Falkenstein were deported from Frankfurt to Lithuania during the third large deportation. The deportation list gives Riga in Latvia as the destination; the ghetto was therefore long considered their place of death and is erroneously listed on the memorial plaque at the Neuer Börneplatz memorial site. However, the transport went from the Großmarkthalle to Kaunas, where the 992 women, men, and children persecuted as Jews were murdered in mass shootings on November 25, 1941, in the immediate vicinity of Fort IX.

The Stolpersteine were initiated by great-nephew Bruce B. Heppen, Potomac, USA.

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Schedule of the Stolpersteine ceremonies on June 29 and 30, 2025:

Sunday, June 29 - Unveiling of new Stolpersteine:			
13:00	Nordend	Holzhausenstraße 11	Ernst, Jeanne and Karl **Silberstein**
Entfällt / Verschoben		Eckenheimer Landstr. 9	Simon, Sara and Iwan **Cohn**; Charlotte and Alfred **Idstein**
14:40	Heddernheim	Hadrianstraße 5	Rosa, Dr. Ernst, Lilli, Hans and Maria ‚Marlies' **Meissinger**
15:45	Ostend	Obermainanlage 3	Max Meilech und Mina Mindel **Luftig**
Monday, June 30 – Installation of Stolpersteine by artist Gunter Demnig:			
10:00	Innenstadt	Seilerstraße 18 (16)	Abraham, Chane Hanna and Karl Joseph **Pohorille**
10:50	Altstadt	Battonnstraße 62	Jakob, Pessia Chaja Clara, Naftali Heinrich and Markus Paul **Fischer**
11:30	Nordend	Elkenbachstraße 2	Amelie, Bettina, Selma and Julie **Rosenthal**
13:45	Ostend	Hölderlinstraße 16	Isak Wolf, Salome and Max **Pohorille**
14:20	Ostend	Mousonstraße 3	Berthold, Minna and Dieter-Werner **Eger**; Mathilde **Homburger**

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