

# STOLPERSTEIN-VERLEGUNG

---

**14 to 16 May 2023 in Frankfurt am Main  
in memory of victims of National Socialism persecuted in Frankfurt.**

**Biographies of the victims of the Stolperstein laying by the  
artist Gunter Demnig on Monday, May 15, 2023.**

10:00	Bockenheim	Zeppelinallee 77	Ludwig, Hubertine, Lieselotte, and Helene <b>Beckhardt</b>
10:35	Westend	Wiesenau 4	Jakob and Henriette Hedwig <b>Mayer</b>
11:05	Westend	Liebigstraße 40	Manfred Adolf, Selma Johanna, Robert, and Charlotte <b>Schellenberg</b>
11:40	Westend	Bockenheimer Landstr. 5	Erich, Berta and Helen <b>Mayer</b>
12:10	Westend	Bockenheimer Anlage 15	Adolf, Justine, Else, Theodor, and Hilde <b>Beckhardt</b>
12:40	Westend	Bockenheimer Anlage 38	Liesel and Kurt <b>Scheidt</b>
14:25	Westend	Mainzer Landstraße 36	Hermann, Hertha, Käthe, Ernst Paul, and Kurt Georg <b>Wertheim</b>
15:00	Westend	Eschersheimer Landstr. 39	Paul, Jette, Ernst, and Lotte Clementine <b>Lion</b>
15:30	Nordend	Melemstraße 5	Melitta, Ludwig, and Stephan <b>Wechsler</b>
16:10	Nordend	Baumweg 41	Max, Henriette, and Adelheid <b>Oppenheimer</b>
16:50	Ostend	Howaldtstraße 10	Moses, Plantina, and Lotti <b>Anspach</b> ; Betty <b>Baum</b> ; Ilse and Ludwig <b>Rothschild</b>

**Schedule of all three days at <https://www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de/en/news>**

---

**Bockenheim**  
**Zeppelinallee 77**

**Ludwig Beckhardt**

Date of birth: 7.8.1888  
Detainment: 12. 11.1938-30.11.1938  
Buchenwald concentration camp  
Escape: August 1941 USA

**Lieselotte Beckhardt**

Date of birth: 14.11.1928  
Escape: August 1941 USA

**Hubertine "Elly" Beckhardt, née Nütten**

Date of birth: 18.3. 1897  
Escape: August 1941 USA

**Helene Beckhardt**

Date of birth: 16.10.1933  
Escape: August 1941 USA

Ludwig Beckhardt was the eldest child of the Frankfurt-based merchant Theodor Beckhardt (1854-1917), who came from Ingenheim in the Palatinate, and his wife Helene, née Beckhardt (1869-1929), also from Ingenheim. He was born in the parental home, Sandweg 28 in Frankfurt. Theodor Beckhardt was already a successful merchant at this time, having inherited from his father Aron the clothing store 'W. Fuhrländer Nachf.' on the Zeil. Originally, the store founded by Wilhelm Fuhrländer in 1860 and sold to Aron Beckhardt in 1867 had been located at Fahrgasse 121. It was not until 1912 that Theodor Beckhardt and his two sons moved it to Zeil 72-78 and expanded it in the following years to Zeil 80.



*Ludwig, Helene, Elly, Lieselotte Beckhardt, around 1935*

In 1890 and 1893 Ludwig's siblings Adolf and Margarete were born in Frankfurt. At this time, the Beckhardt family already occupied their new house at Im Trutz Frankfurt 32; it remained the family's center of life for decades. Later, Margarete Beckhardt's husband Dr. Fritz Rosenberg set up his pediatric practice on the first floor.

Ludwig attended the Goethe Gymnasium until he passed his secondary school leaving examination, then did a commercial apprenticeship in a silk house in Berlin and subsequently joined his father's company in Frankfurt. During World War I, he served with the Hussars from 1914 to 1918 and was wounded several times. During one of his stays in hospital, the young nurse Hubertine Nütten, known as Elly, nursed him. A love affair developed from this. Ludwig moved into a house in Königstein (Hartmuthstr. 5), Elly lived as a "privatiere" in an apartment at Jahnstraße 32 in Frankfurt (the house belonged to the Beckhardt brothers).

Not too much is known about the family background of Elly Beckhardt, née Nütten. She came from a Catholic home in Aachen and had eight siblings. Her parents were the victuals merchant Joseph Nütten and his wife Maria, her brother was Karl Nütten, who later lived in Cologne. It is not clear whether she worked as a trained nurse in a war hospital or did voluntary service for the Red Cross. After World War I, she settled in Frankfurt; details of possible employment cannot be determined. Shortly before her marriage to Ludwig Beckhardt, she converted to Judaism, a step she did not revise.

The marriage finally took place in Frankfurt on March 5, 1928. In 1928 and 1933 the two daughters Lieselotte and Helene were born; the latter already in the luxurious 'Villa Weil' in Zeppelinallee 77, in Frankfurt-Bockenheim, bought by Ludwig around 1930. Although Ludwig was a busy businessman, he also cultivated his hobbies, especially equestrian sports, stamp collecting and traveling.

Immediately after the handover of power to the National Socialists, the department store 'W. Fuhrländer Nachf.' was affected by boycott measures. The Beckhardt brothers, their wives and even the children were subjected to harassment. They were forced to close the store in March 1937, to sell the business building at Zeil 72-80, the goods and furnishings far below value. From then on, Ludwig Beckhardt supported himself and his family from savings.

From November 12 to 30, 1938, Ludwig Beckhardt was imprisoned in the Buchenwald concentration camp. As a diabetic, he suffered all the more; medical care was not available, so that he additionally developed serious and lasting heart problems, suffered from insomnia and anxiety.

Ludwig Beckhardt and his family were aware that the escape from Germany had to take place as quickly as possible. Nevertheless, it was delayed. The main reason was the worry about the old grandmother Justine Beckhardt. Secondly, Ludwig Beckhardt had already tried to buy a farm offered in Portuguese East Africa (today's Mocambique) months before the imprisonment, together with the two Frankfurt merchants Felix Samter and Albert Stein. After months of bureaucratic back-and-forth, the project fell through. It failed because of the extremely restrictive German foreign exchange regulations, which finally made the transfer of money impossible. Meanwhile, Elly Beckhardt took some valuables out of Frankfurt and hid them with her parents in Aachen. The Beckhardt family had to sell their villa at Zeppelinallee 77 for far less than it was worth, and it became the property of the German Army. A new apartment was found in the immediate neighborhood, Zeppelinallee 65. The spacious apartment building had belonged to the Hirsch siblings, who had already fled Germany in 1933. From 1939 on, numerous Jews found a temporary home there.

Ludwig's parental home, Im Trutz Frankfurt 32, where sister Margarete lived with her husband and two children, also had to be forcibly sold to non-Jews in 1939, as did the house located in Königstein and the house at Fahrgasse 85.

Ludwig Beckhardt was at the end of his physical strength when the Escape succeeded in August 1941. In Lisbon, he and his family boarded the steamer Excalibur, which took them to New York. Due to his poor physical condition, Ludwig Beckhardt was unable to support his family. Intensive medical and drug treatment was impossible in view of the scarcity of financial resources.

Fortunately, Elly Beckhardt was an energetic and pragmatic personality. Making a living in New York was her sole responsibility. She turned her homemaking skills into a business, albeit a modest one - baking and selling German bread. In the late 1950s, she founded her own art trading business and successfully traded

Elly Beckhardt first filed restitution claims in 1949/50. Her claims were represented by the Frankfurt-based businessman Paul Winker and his wife, the psychologist Dr. Lieselotte Winker, née Lorenz. The Winker couple were among the Beckhardt families' closest confidants, and he had worked there as an authorized signatory until the closure of their company. In July 1941, the Beckhardt brothers granted him general power of attorney. Shortly before their escape, Ludwig and Elly Beckhardt placed some furniture in Winker's apartment to protect it from the access of the local National Socialists. Elly Beckhardt hid valuable jewelry with her brother Karl in Cologne. The jewelry was stolen during a bombing raid, and the housed furniture and paintings (by Slevogt, among others) fell victim to bombing. The valuable stamp collection entrusted to a confidant at the Deutsche Bank was also "lost under exciting circumstances in 1945".

Ludwig Beckhardt died completely impoverished on November 10, 1944 in New York as a result of his imprisonment in a concentration camp. Elly Beckhardt died on October 17, 1980 in Cologne during a visit to her brother.

Daughter Lieselotte attended high school until 1946 and college until about 1950. Despite studying art, she worked as an accountant for the American Army after her marriage to Arthur Fried, a native of New York, and lived in Alaska. Daughter Helene was in high school until 1951, graduated with a degree in education in 1955, and then worked as a special education teacher. She married Harold Apt, a native of Breslau.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Stephanie Apt, financed by Dirk and Liane Moldenhauer and the German Football Association (DFB).*

---

---

**Westend  
Wiesenaus 4**

**Henriette Hedwig Mayer, née Hirsch**

Date of birth: 14.2.1872

Escape: 16.8.1939 Sweden

**Jakob Mayer**

Date of birth: 7.6.1870

Escape: 16.8.1939 Sweden

Henriette Hirsch was born in Speyer. Her father Elias Hirsch was a grain merchant there. The mother Hedwig died two days after the birth. According to Jewish tradition, one does not give a child the name of a related person who is still alive. Henriette was named Hedwig after the death of her mother. She signed her name "Hedwig."

Hedwig had eight siblings. The children were brought up by their father in the liberal Jewish tradition. Most of the siblings came to Sweden and became Swedish citizens, the first by profession or marriage, the others as a result of Escape and Expulsion. Hedwig Hirsch had attended a girls' school for ten years. After graduation, she stayed with her father until 1895, when she married Jakob Mayer, a wine merchant from Bodenheim near Mainz.

Jakob Mayer did an apprenticeship in a wine trading company in Mainz. He then completed a year of voluntary service in the military. Afterwards he worked in the wine trade of his father in Mainz. He probably met Hedwig through another wine merchant, Adolf Lion from Mainz, who had married Hedwig's sister Emma. The Lion couple emigrated to Sweden in 1891. Both of them, together with their siblings and relatives, became a main support not only for Ludwig and Hedwig Mayer, but also for other family members who later came to Sweden as refugees.

After their marriage in 1895, Jakob Mayer and his wife Hedwig moved to Frankfurt, where he founded a company for domestic and foreign wines. The children Erich and Melitta were born here in 1895 and 1897.

During World War I, Jakob Mayer had served in the rank of captain as a hospital inspector. He had been decorated several times. By the end of the 1920s, his wine business was going badly. His Swedish relatives provided financial help. From March 1930 he became an independent general agent for the wine company 'Joh. Bapt. Sturm' in Rüdeshheim, covering the districts of Baden, Hesse, Württemberg, Frankfurt am Main and parts of the Taunus. Thus he was able to save his company. After the National Socialists came to power in 1933, living conditions deteriorated drastically due to the anti-Jewish boycott calls. The Sturm wine company nevertheless held on to him as general agent until the end of 1938. Jakob Mayer was arrested around November 9, 1938 and taken to a concentration camp, probably Buchenwald.



*Hedwig und Hermine Mayer*

He was probably forced to leave the country by the Gestapo, as was his son Erich Mayer. On November 14, 1938, the company was deregistered. Head over heels, Jakob and Hedwig Mayer applied for permission to travel to Sweden to relatives on November 20 and 29, respectively, until the onward journey to Johannesburg to daughter Melitta Wechsler was approved. The Wechsler family had been able to flee there in 1936. The applications were rejected by the Swedish authorities. Only another application dated December 10, 1938, submitted by the relatives, the three sisters Emma Lion, Hermine Hirsch and Rosa Blaustein as well as the brother Oscar Hirsch, was successful. The relatives assured that they would pay for their living expenses. They also pointed out that because of their advanced age, the applicants posed no danger to the labor market or to "Jewish colonization." Sweden then issued an entry visa and granted a residence permit for six months. As a result, the couple could now give notice to vacate the apartment. Removal lists had to be drawn up in which everything, but everything, had to be listed: hairpin, sock holder, dentures above and below, a zinc spoon, of course, jewelry, silver, cutlery, etc. It had to be stated when the items were purchased, before or after 1933, and at what price. Valuables were confiscated.



*Hedwig Mayer mit Familie*

After this grueling and humiliating departure procedure, including a forced move to Beethovenstraße 64, Hedwig and Jakob Mayer were finally able to leave for Sweden in mid-August 1939.

The onward journey to South Africa was no longer possible. Again with financial and other support from relatives in Sweden and their daughter in South Africa, Jakob and Hedwig Mayer were

allowed and able to stay in Sweden, but had to have their residence permits

extended again and again. Jakob worked on a small scale and thus had a modest income. In November 1941, the couple was deprived of their German citizenship. Jakob Mayer died in September 1942. His wife Hedwig became a Swedish citizen in March 1951. In the naturalization documents there was a so-called affidavit, a lifelong guarantee, provided by the son-in-law Ludwig Wechsler in Johannesburg.

Hedwig and her sisters were known in the Jewish community in Stockholm for their spirited and social commitment. She died in September 1958. Jakob and Hedwig Mayer were buried at the Haga Norra Jewish Cemetery in Stockholm.

The son Erich Mayer and his family and the daughter Melitta Wechsler and her family are commemorated by five more Stolpersteine in Bockenheimer Landstraße 5 and Melemstraße 5.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Bertil Oppenheimer and Mona Wikhäll and financed by Janina Schmidt and Stefan Euler.*



---

**Westend****Liebigstraße 40****Manfred Adolf Schellenberg**

Date of birth: 24.2.1873

Deportation: 18.8.1942 Theresienstadt,  
26.9.1942 Treblinka

Date of death: unknown

**Selma Johanna Schellenberg, née Mayer**

Date of birth: 30.9.1881

Deportation: 18.8.1942 Theresienstadt,  
26.9.1942 Treblinka

Date of death: unknown

**Robert Schellenberg**

Date of birth: 23.3.1915

Escape: 1938 USA

**Charlotte Schellenberg**

Date of birth: 16.4.1918

Escape: 1939 England, 1940 USA

Manfred Adolf Schellenberg was born in Goddelau and was married to Selma Johanna Schellenberg, née Mayer; born in Bad Kreuznach. They had two children born in Frankfurt, son Robert born in 1915 and daughter Charlotte born in 1918.

Manfred Schellenberg was active in Frankfurt as a wine merchant. As early as 1904, he is listed in the Frankfurt address book with a wine shop 'Schellenberg & Flörsheim' at Oppenheimer Straße 48. Ten years later, he moved his wine shop to Lange Straße 7, where it existed for over 20 years, until 1934. The company employed up to six employees. Since 1933, there was a significant decline in sales due to the anti-Semitic boycotts. As a result, the traditional business had to move several times: in 1935 to Emil-Claar-Straße 9 and finally in 1938 to Feldbergstraße 22 until the forced abandonment of the business.

The family lived in the Westend for many decades: first in Mendelssohnstraße and Beethovenstraße and then, throughout the 1920s, in Kronberger Straße 23. In 1932/33, the family moved to Liebigstraße 40. This was probably the last move not triggered by persecution. From 1935, the address of the wine shop at Emil-Claar-Straße 9 (in the meantime renamed Rankestraße) was probably also their residence. Finally, Manfred and Selma Schellenberg were forced to live in the addresses Sternstraße 42 (1939), Scheffelstraße 27 (1941) and Körnerwiese 11, which functioned as "ghetto houses", together with others who were persecuted as Jewish, in a very confined space.

On August 18, 1942, Manfred and Selma Schellenberg were deported to Theresienstadt on the first so-called Alterstransport together with about 1,020 other Jews living in Frankfurt. Only a few weeks later, they were probably sent on another transport to the Treblinka extermination camp, where they were murdered in the gas chambers.

Son Robert attended the Varrentrappschule until 1923, then the Wöhlerschule until 1928 and then the



*Robert Schellenberg, passport photo from an certification of good conduct for the Brazilian, 1937*

Städtische Handelslehranstalt II in Frankfurt for two years. In 1930 he completed a commercial apprenticeship at the J. Adler Jr. company, a leading iron and scrap metal business. After graduation, he worked there as a commercial assistant and later as a demolition manager responsible for the scrapping of Frankfurt companies.



*Robert and Charlotte Schellenberg, 1940*

From 1937 at the latest, in view of the increasing persecution, he took the decision to leave Germany. At first, he tried to find a destination in Brazil. Finally, in July 1938, he managed to escape to New York, USA. From there he came to Norfolk, Virginia, with the support of the National Council of Jewish Woman. At first he found no work and had to live on support. Only from 1946 was he able to support himself and his family. He changed his name to Shellenberg and married Thelma Silberger, with whom he had daughter Nancy. He later started a linoleum flooring business and moved to New Jersey around 1950. He died in June 1979, leaving his daughter Nancy Gittleson, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Daughter Charlotte Karoline attended the private Lyceum Steimer at 43 Kronberger Street for eleven years, and completed one more year in the domestic science department of this high school for girls after graduating from high school. From 1935 to 1936 she worked in the Jewish infant home in Sachsenhausen. She then went to Berlin and trained as a kindergarten teacher, which she successfully completed on March 18, 1938. She was then employed at the Jewish country school home in Caputh in Brandenburg until August 1938. She then went back to Frankfurt as a private kindergarten teacher and nanny in the household of the Beckhardt family, for whom Stolpersteine will also be laid in May 2023.

In March 1939 she was able to escape to England and followed her brother to the USA in 1940. Her degree was not recognized there and she had to keep her head above water with unskilled work in a wholesale laundry, as a saleswoman and as a seamstress in a clothing factory. On February 14, 1942, in New York, she married Joseph Loewensberg (1914-1976), a native of Ingelheim, who was drafted into the U.S. Army shortly thereafter. They had two children, Carol and Ralph, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In the



*Charlotte, Carol, Ralph, and Joe Loewensberg.*



late 1950s she worked as a kindergarten teacher in New York City in a kindergarten for children of Jewish immigrants from Europe. After the death of Joseph Loewensberg, she married Claude Pfeifer. She died in 2004 in New York City.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Todd Weissfeld, grandson of Charlotte Schellenberg, and financed by Annette Gabriel and Bertram Cezanne.*

---

## **Westend**

### **Bockenheimer Landstraße 5**

#### **Berta Mayer, née Guggenheim**

Date of birth: 28.1.1909

Escape: 25.1.1939 England,  
December 1939 USA

#### **Martin Erich Mayer**

Date of birth: 16.10.1895

Escape: 25.1.1939 England,  
December 1939 USA

#### **Helen Mayer**

Date of birth: 28.9.1935

Escape: 25.1.1939 England,  
December 1939 USA

Erich Mayer was the son of Jakob and Hedwig Mayer. The father Jakob came from Bodenheim near Mainz. The mother Hedwig, née Hirsch, was born in Speyer. After their marriage in 1895, the parents moved to Frankfurt am Main, where the father founded a company for domestic and foreign wines. Here the children Erich and Melitta were born in 1895 and 1897.

Erich Mayer studied medicine and was admitted as a physician in 1921. In 1927 he was able to establish himself as a specialist in internal diseases. In October 1929, his well-established practice at Bockenheimer Anlage 49 was also licensed as a panel practice. His apartment was also located here.

In the meantime, he had met Berta Guggenheim from Offenbach am Main, who was 14 years his junior. Her parents were Dr. Siegfried and Eugenie Guggenheim, née Bloch. Her father was a well-known and wealthy lawyer and notary in Offenbach; he was an art collector, patron of the arts, and owned a large collection of Judaica, which is now part of the Siegfried Guggenheim Collection, administered by the Leo Baeck Institute in New York. Dr. Siegfried Guggenheim was chairman of the Offenbach congregation from 1933 to 1939. Berta's brother Ernst Daniel was seven years older than Berta and had lived in the United States since 1926.

After their marriage in 1934, the young family moved their practice to Bockenheimer Anlage 5. In September 1935, their daughter Helen was born in the Jewish Hospital at Gagerstraße 36. From 1933 on, Jewish doctors had been constantly restricted from practicing their profession. Non-Jewish patients stayed away from the practice as a result of the calls for boycotts, Jewish patients lacked the money to pay the doctor or had already emigrated. On October 1, 1938, Erich Mayer's license to practice medicine was revoked.



*Erich Mayer's and Bertel Guggenheim's wedding, 1934*

During the pogrom days of 1938, Erich Mayer was picked up by the state police on November 12 and sent to Buchenwald concentration camp the next day. The "category or reason for imprisonment" was given as "Aktionsjude." This was the language of the Nazis, who blamed the Jews for the raids and destruction: The "people's anger" had reacted justifiably.

Erich Mayer's father-in-law, Siegfried Guggenheim, was also imprisoned in Buchenwald. He recorded the inhumane conditions of imprisonment: "Food and drink from tin containers that could not be cleaned, there was no drinking water.... So the dirty vessel went from mouth to mouth. No blankets, no toilets, let alone toilet paper. Latrines were just holes in the ground. Many got sick, even with open TB, so people infected each other." After agonizing weeks in the camp, Erich Mayer was released on December 12, 1938, and had to commit himself to the Gestapo to leave the country within four weeks. In connection with the application for permission to leave the country, the so-called Judenvermögensabgabe (Jewish property tax) had to be paid on savings accounts that had already been confiscated.

Erich and Berta Mayer had to break up and pack the apartment furnishings and practice equipment within a few weeks. They had to make meticulous lists of the removal goods in order to obtain an export permit. Valuables such as jewelry and silver were not allowed to be exported, but were confiscated.

Erich Mayer had applied for a visa for the USA for himself, his wife and their four-year-old daughter Helen. However, this was impossible to obtain in the short time span; the family first fled to London on January 25, 1939. There they were provided with the most basic necessities by a cousin of the mother from the Bloch family. Life was entirely dependent on the allowances of relatives. During the health check, a shadow was found on Erich Mayer's lungs. This led to a delay in the issuance of the visa. They managed to leave Southampton (England) on December 9, 1939, on a ship of the Holland-America Line.

Arriving in Flushing/New York, the financial struggle for survival continued. To be licensed as a doctor, Erich Mayer first had to pass a language exam and only then was he allowed to apply for a two-year training program. The courses were expensive - \$500. Again, relatives had to help. Berta Mayer worked partly at home and partly in factories, creating knitwear. Earlier, Berta Mayer's parents, Siegfried and Eugenie Guggenheim, had managed to escape to the United States. They also lived in Flushing.

In the fall of 1942, Erich Mayer received his license to practice medicine. The relocation goods, including home furnishings and practice equipment, had never been sent away from Germany, but had been confiscated and auctioned off by the Nazi regime. Only after a second move was Erich Mayer able to build up a patient base and thus secure the family's financial situation. His wife Berta worked in the practice. However, Erich Mayer had to fight lung problems again and again. In 1952, he was diagnosed with TB. He was admitted to a clinic in Denver/Colorado and had to give up his practice. He died during an operation on October 26, 1953. A connection between the lung disease he had contracted in the concentration camp and his death was denied in the compensation proceedings.

The death of the husband again put Berta and Helen Mayer in a predicament. Berta was able to find work in a laboratory while pursuing an education there. Their daughter Helen had just begun her college studies.

Helen was able to finish college and then train as an office clerk. She married Marc Lancberg in 1957, who had survived three concentration camps, was liberated in Mittenwald, and had emigrated to the United States.

Helen is now 88 years old and lives in Roslyn Hights, New York. She has two daughters, Karen and Erica, and four grandchildren.

Erich Mayer's parents, Jakob and Hedwig Mayer, and sister Melitta Wechsler and her family will be remembered by Stolpersteine at Wiesenau 4 and Melemstraße 5.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Bertil Oppenheimer and Mona Wikhäll, and financed by Franziska and Wilhelm Zimmermann and Regine Wolfart.*

---

**Westend****Bockenheimer Anlage 15 (formerly Mozartplatz 22)****Adolf Beckhardt**

Date of birth: 7.2.1890

Detainment: 10.11.1938-16.12.1938

Buchenwald concentration camp

Escape: January 1939 USA

**Theodor Beckhardt**

Date of birth: 10.9.1923

Escape: January 1939 USA

**Else Beckhardt, née Auerbach**

Date of birth: 17.3.1900

Escape: January 1939 USA

**Hilde Beckhardt**

Date of birth: 19.5.1926

Escape: January 1939 USA

**Justine Beckhardt née Fried**

Date of birth: 16.12.1851

Deportation: 18.8.1942 Theresienstadt

Date of death: 7.10.1942 Theresienstadt

Adolf Beckhardt was the second-born child of the wealthy merchant Theodor Beckhardt, who had been resident in Frankfurt since the mid-19th century, and his wife Helene, née Beckhardt, both of whom came from Ingenheim in the Palatinate. He attended the Wöhler Realgymnasium up to the Obersekunda, then learned the profession of a merchant, first in his father's company 'W. Fuhrländer Nachf.', then as a trainee with various companies in Paris and Berlin. After his father's death in February 1917, he became the owner of the aforementioned ladies' clothing store on the Zeil, one of Frankfurt's most renowned business houses, together with his brother Ludwig.

In October 1921, Adolf Beckhardt married a daughter from a highly respected Frankfurt family, Else Amalie Julie Auerbach, ten years his junior. Her father was the lawyer Dr. Ernst



*Adolf Beckhardt*

Theodor Auerbach, her mother Lilli Gertrud, née Neustadt. So on her father's side she came from a legal family, on her mother's side from the banking family Samuel and Recha Neustadt. In the 1920s, Adolf and Else Beckhardt had a representative villa built at Mozartplatz 22, (today on the site of Bockenheimer Anlage 15), not far from Adolf's parents' house. The two children Theodor and Hilde were born there in 1923 and 1926. The family ran a "big house", the family business - trading in manufactured goods, ready-to-wear clothing and furnishings - prospered, Adolf's annual income amounted to around 200,000 Reichsmarks. He was regarded as a clever and capable businessman and was also highly regarded beyond Germany as an art lover, connoisseur and collector.

The boycott measures that began in 1933 directly and

severely damaged Beckhardt's business. SA guards posted themselves in front of the business building on the Zeil to scare off customers. Of the approximately 140 employees, quite a few were National Socialist-minded, but were not allowed to be dismissed. As early as 1933, the business was recording high losses, but could not be sold because it was classified as "Jewish." On March 31, 1937, it finally had to be dissolved and the business premises, goods and furnishings sold at knock-down prices. All of the goods belonging to the company 'W. Fuhrländer Nachf.' had been sold or liquidated by the beginning of 1937. On January 5, 1939, the company was deleted as a trade.

From November 10 to December 16, 1938, Adolf Beckhardt was imprisoned in the Buchenwald concentration camp. He was released on the condition that he leave Germany immediately. After paying the so called "Reichsfluchtsteuer" and the so called "Judenvermögensabgabe" in the amount of 320,000 Reichsmark, he fled with his family on January 26, 1939, initially to England (steamer Hamburg of the Hamburg-America Line). He had been forced to sell his house at Mozartplatz 22 in 1938. In London, the family waited for three months for visas to be issued for the USA. Financial support was provided by his relatives; Adolf also sold part of his stamp collection. In April 1939 the visas were issued. The family arrived in New York on the steamer 'New York' on May 1, 1939. Else Beckhardt's relative Alfred Neuberger provided the first accommodation.

The establishment of a new existence was difficult, but possible because Adolf Beckhardt had been able to save a small part of his famously valuable collection (porcelain and faience from the 18th century, paintings, antique jewelry, antique furniture, carpets) from the Nazis. In 1938, however, he had to sell the much larger and more valuable part of the collection, in part to museums, below cost. In New York, he gradually sold pieces from the collection that remained to him and finally participated in the business "The Art Exchange". Securing a livelihood required the work commitment of the entire family, especially since the economic conditions in the USA were unfavorable until at least 1945.

The tireless and skilful efforts of the former authorized signatory of the Frankfurt company played a decisive role in ensuring that, despite all the difficulties, prospects nevertheless opened up: Paul Winker and his wife Lieselotte ensured that the remaining part of Adolf Beckhardt's collection was transferred to the USA. After 1945, they fought a sustained battle for the restitution claims of both Adolf and Ludwig Beckhardt.

Adolf Beckhardt died on January 2, 1962 in Connecticut, his wife Else on April 24, 1976 in New York.

Son Theodor (called Ted) followed in his father's footsteps professionally. He became a successful antiques dealer and sought-after art expert. Daughter Hilde became a teacher and married Clifford Goldsmith.

Little is known about Justine Beckhardt's family background. She was one of the four daughters of Heinrich Fried, a merchant living in



*Else Beckhardt née Auerbach.*

Ingenheim, and his wife Clara, née Weiss. Around 1877 she married the widowed merchant Aron Beckhardt, who also came from Ingenheim but had been living in Frankfurt for several years. At the beginning Justine Beckhardt lived with her husband at Fahrgasse 85, where their daughter Johanna was born on June 8, 1878. She died on January 1, 1921. The household also included Helene, the daughter born in 1869 of Aron Beckhardt's first marriage to Julie, née Stern. The Beckardt couple moved from Fahrgasse to Königswarter Straße 19 around 1880, where Aron Beckhardt died on June 27, 1889, at the age of 64. It was not until the turn of the century that Justine Beckhardt decided to move to a smaller apartment, to Bergerstr. 16 and finally to Oberlindau 82. Her stepdaughter Helene, who had been married to Theodor Beckhardt since June 1887, had been living in their house Im Trutz Frankfurt 32 for quite some time by this time.

In the mid-1930s, Justine Beckhardt allowed herself to be convinced by her step-grandson Adolf to live with him and his family in his house at Mozartplatz 22. Her grandsons Adolf and Ludwig supported her as much as possible. However, as early as February 1936, she asked for a tax reduction so that she would not be a "burden" on welfare. Living with Justine was easy for Adolf Beckhardt and his family, because she was a very loving and kind person, and had always been intensively involved with the great-grandchildren.

After Adolf's escape in January 1939 and the forced sale of the house, Justine had to look for a new place to live. This was in February 1939 at Bornheimer Landwehr 85, a little later Liebigstraße 1 and finally in the summer of 1941 at Eschersheimer Landstr. 39 (Pension Hoffmann), from where she was deported to the Theresienstadt ghetto in August 1942 at the age of 91.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Stephanie Apt, financed by Edith Erbrich, Alexandra Stark, Ulrike Stockebrand, and Cornelia Volhard-Waechter.*



---

**Westend**  
**Bockenheimer Anlage 38**

**Kurt Scheidt**

Date of birth: 30.5.1896

Escape: 9.12.1938 Australia

**Liesel Scheidt, née Oppenheimer**

Date of birth: 19.10.1907

Escape: 9.12.1938 Australia

Kurt Scheidt was born in Frankfurt am Main. His parents were Louis and Meta Scheidt. He had two younger brothers, Otto and Walter. His father was a partner in the banking house 'Schildt and Scheidt'. The Jewish family lived in their own house at Bockenheimer Anlage 38. The parents both died here, the father in 1919 and the mother in 1932. The house remained in the family and was the residence of Kurt and later also his wife Liesel, née Oppenheimer.

Kurt Scheidt attended the Wöhler Gymnasium and the Philanthropin, where he passed the so-called one-year examination in 1913. He then attended the commercial academy and at the same time completed a commercial apprenticeship at the silk wholesaler Eduard Schott. From the end of November 1915, he served in the First World War as a soldier, ultimately as a non-commissioned officer. After the end of the war, he worked as a business traveler for various companies. For a short time he was a partner in a company for ladies' hats. In 1929 he became the manager of a branch of the Osthafenbäckerei GmbH in Kronprinzenstraße. In 1930 he was able to manage another branch of this company. He sold their goods for a commission on sales. In addition, he sold articles of other companies on his own account. Together with the 'Brot- und Keksfabrik Osthafen GmbH', the Osthafen Bakery was one of the largest baked goods manufacturers in Frankfurt am Main and was owned by the Glauberg family. The managing directors were the brothers Berthold and Fritz Glauberg, whom Kurt Scheidt knew from their school days.

On April 1, 1933, after the call for a boycott against all Jewish businessmen, Berthold and Fritz Glauberg were removed as managing directors; they were forbidden to enter the business premises. They were forced to sell the factory and the bakery branches. Thus, Kurt Scheidt also lost his position; his store was boycotted. Outside, the sign "Jewish store" had to be put up. The new owner of the Osthafen Bakery, the Vitapan company, had refused to supply Kurt Scheidt with baked goods. He had to give up the business without compensation in 1934. He remained unemployed until he fled to Australia with his wife in 1938.

The two Glauberg brothers fled to France in 1933. Berthold Glauberg was arrested there in 1943, deported and murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945.

Liesel Scheidt was the daughter of the merchant Simon Oppenheimer from Fränkisch-Crumbach and Cornelia, née Stadecker, from Worms. Liesel and her brother Kurt were born in Frankfurt in 1907 and 1910. The father Simon Oppenheimer was killed in action in 1914. Six difficult years followed for the widow and her two children until she married the grain merchant Leopold Werthan in 1920. He had returned as a war invalid, but achieved prosperity and official recognition in his profession as a grain merchant and was a member of the Grain Exchange and an appraiser for the Chamber of Commerce. The family lived at 30a Lersner Street.

Liesel attended the Philanthropin until the age of 16 and then the Municipal Seminary for Kindergarten Teachers. Here she passed her exams two years later. She gained her first professional experience in a children's home in Westphalia before opening a kindergarten in Frankfurt am Main in 1930 at Lersnerstraße 30, in the house next door to her family. This also enabled her to become a member of the Kindergarten Association. Between 12 and 15 children of different denominations attended the kindergarten. With the income she was able to support herself. In the meantime, she had met Kurt Scheidt. In May 1931, the wedding took place. Liesel moved in with her husband at Bockenheimer Anlage 38. The marriage remained childless.



*Liesel Scheidt, 1929*

From 1933, she was no longer allowed to accept Christian children. The number of Jewish children also declined because their parents, who themselves suffered persecution, could no longer pay the fees. Their income melted down to half. The husband Kurt had been driven into unemployment. Only the Escape remained. With a heavy heart, Liesel had to leave her mother behind in Lersnerstraße when she and her husband embarked on the ship journey to Australia at the end of 1938. There they had escaped Nazi persecution, but found it difficult to keep their heads above water economically. Unemployment alternated with odd jobs. At the end of World War II, the couple changed their name to Shaw. It wasn't until 1952 that Liesel Shaw got a permanent job as a packer in a warehouse company. During years of grueling compensation proceedings, in which Kurt Shaw was awarded only DM 11,000, he died in 1966 as a result of Parkinson's disease.

Liesel Shaw was awarded a one-time sum for lost professional life and a small pension. Without financial support from her relatives, especially her brother Kurt Oppenheimer, who had been able to flee to Sweden, Liesel Shaw would not have been able to exist. Her brother had already paid for the ship passage to Australia.

Liesel married John Nuffield in 1968, but was widowed again three years later. Only once, in 1949, had she been able to see her mother again in Stockholm. In 1984, she was invited by the city of Frankfurt am Main for a week as a former Frankfurter. On this occasion she was able to see her sister-in-law Elli Oppenheimer again. Liesel Shaw/Nuffield died in Sydney in 1996.

Stolpersteine had already been laid in 2022 for her mother Cornelia Werthan, brother Kurt Oppenheimer and his wife Elli Oppenheimer and for other members of this family.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Bertil Oppenheimer and Mona Wikhäll, and financed by Mona Wikhäll and Victor Pfaff.*

---

**Westend**

**Mainzer Landstraße 36** (former number 34)

**Hertha Wertheim, née Zedner**

Date of birth: 8.11.1882

Escape: 1939 Brussels, 31.12.1937 USA

**Hermann Wertheim**

Date of birth: 5.10.1861

Passed away 31.5.1933

**Käthe Wertheim**

Date of birth: 4.9.1907

Escaped

**Kurt Georg Wertheim**

Date of birth: 13.9.1917

Escape: 11.11.1937 USA

**Ernst Paul Wertheim**

Date of birth: 16.3.1918

Escape: 1939 Belgium

Kurt Georg Wertheim was born in Frankfurt, the son of Hermann and Hertha Wertheim, née Zedner. Hermann Wertheim, active as a private banker, came from Witzenhausen, his wife Hertha came from Offenbach. The couple had three children Käthe, Kurt Georg and Ernst Paul. The family lived first in Marburg, then from 1909 in a three-story house at Mainzer Landstraße 34, now number 36.

Kurt Wertheim graduated from high school in 1933. He then completed a three-year apprenticeship at the import/export company L.S. Mayer, which he finished on January 31, 1936. As early as 1935 (other sources speak of mid-1937) he began working at the Berlin branch of L. S. Mayer; he lived in Berlin-Wilmersdorf.

Kurt Georg Wertheim must have intended to emigrate to the USA during this time. Through the support of his cousin, the philosopher Erich Fromm (whose mother was his mother's sister), he obtained a visa that enabled him to emigrate. Via Hamburg and Cherbourg, he reached New York on November 11, 1937.

In the spring of 1939, he moved to Memphis to live with Walter Bacharach, a friend from Frankfurt days. In the fall of 1939, he began working in Memphis at Mayer Myers Paper Company. He changed his name to Curtis George Ward. A New York contact helped him get a job at Slumber Products, a mattress manufacturer.

In 1941, he decided to volunteer for the Army. He was initially stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he became a naturalized American citizen.

He was later transferred to Camp Ritchie, Maryland, where he was part of the "Ritchie Boys" group that later became famous. A special training program, such as learning interrogation techniques, prepared him for his assignment in Europe, which was to include interrogation of German prisoners.

When Belgium was liberated on February 4, 1945, he went to Brussels. He found his brother Ernst Paul and his mother, who had managed to escape to Belgium in 1939. They survived under the most difficult conditions. Curtis George Ward helped them both to emigrate to the USA. He set up an apartment for his mother on New York's Upper West Side; Hertha Wertheim died on March 15, 1970. He himself returned to his old employer Slumber Products in Memphis.

On November 10, 1957, he married Hedi Schulklopper in New York. His wife, also born in Frankfurt in 1930, was the daughter of a shoe manufacturer. After his imprisonment in the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1935 and the forced expropriation of his company, the family fled to New York in the USA. There Hedi Schulklopper graduated from New York University to become a social worker in Harlem. After her marriage, she joined her husband in Memphis and began working for the Shelby County Department of Welfare. Curt George Ward died in 1997 and Hedi in 2007.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Lucy/New York and her mother Mary Loveless/Memphis, whose three daughters were the "ersatz grandchildren" of Kurt and Hedi Ward. and funded by the Aaron and Naomi Turré and Doris Franzmann.*

---

**Westend  
Eschersheimer Landstraße 39**

**Paul Lion**

Date of birth: 13.6.1870

Date of death: 7.7.1938

Humiliated/deprived of rights

**Jette "Etti" Lion, née Lang**

Date of birth: 19.9.1879

Detainment: 1941 Frankfurt prison

Deportation: 1942 to the East, murdered

Date of death: unknown

**Ernst Lion**

Date of birth: 5.2.1906

Escape: Frankreich

Detainment: 1941 Camp Racabadou, escaped  
3.2.1941

Escape: 1941 Cuba

**Lotte Klementine Lion**

Date of birth: 9.1.1919

Detainment: 1941 Frankfurt prison

Deportation: 1942 to the East, murdered

Date of death: unknown

Paul Lion, a factory owner from Mannheim, is listed in the Frankfurt address books since 1899, initially at Sternstraße 21. On May 10, 1905, he married Jette Lang, a native of Nuremberg. They moved into the large seven-room apartment on the second floor of Eschersheimer Landstraße 39, where the family continued to live after Paul Lion's death until the summer of 1941, together with the domestic servant and educator Agnes Ruppmann. The couple had two children, Lotte and Ernst, both born in Frankfurt.

Paul Lion ran the tapestry factory 'Gebr. Maas Nachf., Lion, Winnen & Co.' since 1905 at the latest, first at Königstraße 14, later Königstraße 48 (today Gräfstraße) in Bockenheim.

Son Ernst attended the Frankfurt Musterschule and passed his Abitur there in 1925. In 1925/26, he studied electrical engineering at the Technical University in Munich. He then completed a traineeship at the Frankfurt silk wholesaler 'Schwarzschild, Ochs & Co', studied for a further year at the Technical School for the Textile Industry in Reutlingen and worked for the company 'Castelnuovo & Co' in Rome. In 1929 he joined his father's company as a commercial employee.

Due to close ties with a Basel company, Ernst Lion initially went to France near the Swiss border with Basel in September 1933 and obtained a residence and work permit in Switzerland, which led to his deregistration in Frankfurt in January 1935.

His sister Lotte attended the Elisabethenschule in Frankfurt from 1929 until the Obersekunda in the fall of 1936. As a Jew, she had to leave school before graduating from high school and was thus unable to pursue her study plans. After a three-month stay in England, she completed a two-year apprenticeship in Frankfurt as an advertising and fashion illustrator and painter. She taught for six months at a Jewish art school, gave private lessons and trained in advertising photography in order to be better prepared for her intended emigration.

Under pressure from his partner, Paul Lion had to sign over his share in the factory on January 1, 1934, and was now only a silent partner. Due to the steadily growing exclusion, he was initially prevented from entering the company and was finally excluded completely.

He died as a result of cancer in July 1938. His wife Jette initially remained at Eschersheimer Landstraße 39 with their daughter Lotte.

According to the compensation file, since the family was very wealthy, she was in constant written contact with the Devisenstelle, where she had to beg for every expense and monthly support. Since she renounced the inheritance that the son Ernst, who was intended to inherit the company and was meanwhile living in Basel, wanted to accept, she came under suspicion of a criminal act. The foreign exchange office informed her that she was not allowed to renounce the compulsory portion for herself and the daughter. From then on, she was under constant surveillance. Due to the anti-Jewish legal practice, it was not possible for Ernst to assert his claim to inheritance.

From August 1940 until the end of the year, Jette Lion applied several times for travel money to enable her daughter Lotte to travel to Berlin. There she met a nephew of her mother for the purpose of emigration to Brazil. A house was to be bought there with other relatives. A corresponding application was also made to the foreign exchange office to enable the emigration.

As a result, Jette Lion was investigated for violating the "security order". On September 30, 1941, the Deutsche Bank informed Jette Lion that 100,000 Reichsmarks had been set aside as "Reich escapesteuer". However, the intended escape did not take place.

At the beginning of 1941, Lotte Lion was obliged to perform forced labor. In July 1941, Jette and Lotte were forced to move into a smaller apartment at Oederweg 11. The previous large apartment had to be given up and almost all of the furniture and valuable works of art had to be given away or sold for far less than their value.

In November 1941, Jette and Lotte Lion were arrested by the Gestapo under "suspicion of espionage", possibly in connection with the state's attempt to rob the inheritance, and held for about two months in the Frankfurt remand prison. After their release, the address given is Pension Nussbaum at Liebigstraße 27b. On April 1, they were arrested again and sent to the police prison. In Lotte's compensation file, there is also a note from the responsible police station: "on November 3, 1941 by the Gestapo to the Starkestraße protective custody prison".

Jette Lion was forced to sign a "home purchase contract". Her last address was the Jewish hospital in Gagerstraße, which in the meantime served as collective accommodation for those persecuted as Jewish before their deportation.

According to the memorial book of the Federal Archives, Jette and Lotte Lion were deported to an unknown location and murdered in 1942.

Son Ernst, meanwhile, was staying in France. In early 1940, he was arrested and interned in the Camp de Recebedou. From there he escaped on February 3, 1941. He managed to escape to Spain, and on September 22, 1941, he was able to escape on the ship 'Magallanes' from Bilbao to Havana, Cuba.

Ernst, now Ernesto, took Cuban citizenship, lived in Cuba with his wife and worked for various companies as a commercial employee. In the 1950s, he stayed in Frankfurt for several years in order to assert his legal claim to his parents' inheritance. His father's former business partner, who had been responsible for the Aryanization, tried his best to prevent this. Finally, Ernst Lion received the property at Gräfstraße 48 back and compensation in 1957.

As a result of the Cuban Revolution, he and his wife were forced to escape again. They emigrated to Florida in August 1959. Due to visa problems in the U.S., his wife also decided to take German citizenship in 1965.

Since 1961 they again had a second residence in Frankfurt, where Ernst (Ernesto) Lion died on October 22, 1978.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Renate Böhnert, and financed by Renate Böhnert, Hendrik Naew, family Kristine Bareuther, and Konstanze Streese.*

---

## **Westend Melemstraße 5**

**Melitta Wechsler**, née Mayer  
Date of birth: 23.9.1897  
Escape: 1.10.1936 South Africa

**Ludwig Wechsler**  
Date of birth: 8.12.1894  
Escape: 1.10.1936 South Africa

**Stephan Wechsler**  
Date of birth 16.8.1925  
Escape: 1.10.1936 South Africa

Melitta Mayer was born in Frankfurt. Her parents were Hedwig and Jakob Mayer. The father came from a wine merchant family from Bodenheim near Mainz. The mother Hedwig, née Hirsch, was born in Speyer. Jakob Mayer also became a wine merchant, first with his father in Mainz, then as a self-employed man in Frankfurt. The children Melitta and her brother Erich also grew up there.

Ludwig Wechsler was born in Bad Vilbel, where his parents, Alfred and Berta Wechsler, ran a third-generation bakery and country produce business. Ludwig's brother Eugen, who was two years younger, took over the family business. When the latter was forced to close due to the harassment and boycott against Jewish businesses already imposed on April 1, 1933, he fled to Palestine with his wife Selma and daughter Lore.



Ludwig Wechsler had trained as a businessman as a young man. He was working as an independent sales representative for the companies 'Georg Friedrich Goetz' and 'Schnell-Verschluss GmbH' when he met Melitta Mayer, who was three years younger. The young couple married in October 1923, and they were married by Rabbi Caesar Seligmann in the liberal synagogue, as Melitta Wechsler wrote, "on Königsteiner Straße". Family relations, especially between Melitta and her brother Erich and his wife Berta, were close and cordial. In 1925, their son Stephan was born. His cousin Helen Mayer, Erich Mayer's daughter, later recalled that Stephan had suffered from asthma at an early age.



*Melitta Wechsler.*

From 1933 on, the professional situation for Ludwig Wechsler and his brother worsened from year to year. The Goetz company was forced by the Nazis to end its cooperation with Ludwig Wechsler. This was probably in 1935, as Wechsler no longer had any taxable income to show in 1936. The couple was forced to leave the country to seek a new home and livelihood in South Africa. In order to pay for their departure, they were forced to sell off a large part of the furniture in their five-room apartment.

On October 1, 1936, they left Frankfurt and on November 5, they sailed from Genoa on the steamer 'Gulio Cesare' to Cape Town in South Africa. Once there, Ludwig Wechsler tried to find work in Johannesburg. However, he remained unemployed due to his lack of language skills. The family was completely dependent on the financial support of the 'Jewish Board of Deputies', a Jewish welfare institution in Johannesburg. Then he tried unsuccessfully with a small trading company for fancy goods and fake jewelry. In 1941 he started again with a company of fake jewelry, but this time he produced it himself. With this he was able to achieve a stable and good income, after he had found a financially strong partner. His wife Melitta also worked in both companies.



In 1953, Melitta filed for divorce. Her husband undertook to provide for her maintenance. Unfortunately, he died at the age of 59, only two months after the divorce.

Stephan Wechsler had worked as a diamond cutter and married Jeanette Lipschild of Rhodesia in 1951. The couple had four children. Stephan Wechsler died in 1970 as a result of heart

*Stephan Wechsler*

problems at the age of 44. His cousin Helen Lancberg suggested that his asthma may have contributed. His oldest son Burry also died very young at 29. Melitta lived a very reclusive life thereafter and died in November 1986.

In Frankfurt, at Wiesenau 4 and Bockenheimer Landstraße 5, other Stolpersteine commemorate the refugee fates of Melitta's parents, Ludwig and Hedwig Mayer, who fled to Sweden, and of Martin Mayer's brother and his family, who fled to the United States.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Bertil Oppenheimer and Mona Wikhäll, and financed by Tina Dietrich as well as by Gerald and Sabine Maier, current residents of Melemstraße 5.*

---

## **Nordend**

### **Baumweg 41**

#### **Max Oppenheimer**

Date of birth: 25.1.1881

Escape: 8.12.1939 USA

#### **Henriette Oppenheimer**, née Sandel

Date of birth: 27.9.1888

Escape: 8.12.1939 USA

#### **Adelheid Oppenheimer**

Date of birth: 13.9.1875

Escape: 9.12.1939 USA

#### **Siegbert Oppenheimer**

Date of birth: 28.3.1920

Escape: 28.7.1937 USA

#### **Erika Oppenheimer**

Date of birth: 1.5.1912

Escape: 21.10.1936 USA

Max Oppenheimer was born in Gedern, the son of the merchant Wolf Oppenheimer (1850-1929) and his second wife Hilde née Chambrä. He married Henriette Sandel from Hirschhorn am Neckar, daughter of the merchant Sandel Sandel and his wife Johanna, née Strauß, in May 1911. Max and Henriette Oppenheimer had two children, Erika and Siegbert.

Max Oppenheimer was a master upholsterer and was awarded the Iron Cross for his service in the First World War. After his business and home were raided and looted in March 1933, the family moved to Frankfurt in 1935 after Max had recovered. There they were first registered at Mauerweg 36, then from 1938 at Baumweg 41.

The daughter Erika Oppenheimer fled from Hamburg and arrived in New York on October 30, 1936. She lived in New York City, married the upholsterer Joseph Ivan Bachrach and had two sons and a grandson with him. She worked in her husband's business, making draperies and upholstery. She died on December 27, 2001.

The son Siegbert Oppenheimer had begun an apprenticeship as an upholsterer in Hadamar, which he then completed in Frankfurt. He fled from Hamburg to New York on the SS Manhattan in 1937. There he worked as an upholsterer and interior decorator, and was highly respected at it. For almost 25 years he held two jobs and also worked as a clerk in the Brooklyn Navy Yard until it closed in 1966. He fought in World War II, where he was shot in

Italy near Monte Cassino. In June 1954, he married Margot Baer. They had a daughter, Deborah, and a son, Mark, and five grandchildren. Siegbert and Margot worked very hard as a team until they retired. Siegbert Oppenheimer died on January 18, 1997.

The parents Max and Henriette Oppenheimer managed to escape via Rotterdam on the SS Veendam to the USA, where they arrived in New York on December 22, 1939. There, Max Oppenheimer continued to work as an upholsterer and became involved in building an Orthodox synagogue in New York. He died on October 5, 1949. Henriette Oppenheimer lived with her son Siegbert's family after her husband's death. She died on January 13, 1983, and the recipe of her German potato salad is still enjoyed by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Adelheid Oppenheimer was the older half-sister of Max Oppenheimer and was also born in Gedern. She was the daughter of Wolf Oppenheimer and Betty Grünebaum (1844 - 1879). She had two direct brothers, Samuel (born in 1877, he died in World War I) and Abraham, who died two weeks after birth in 1879.

Adelheid Oppenheimer left Germany on the SS Pennland from Antwerp and arrived in New York on December 23, 1939. She helped raise Erika Oppenheimer's two children until she was too ill to do so. She last lived in a nursing home and died in New York on April 10, 1962.

Max Oppenheimer's sister, Paulina Stern, née Oppenheimer, born in 1882, and her husband Leo Stern, born in 1882, lived in Meinerzhagen and were deported from Dortmund to Zamosc on April 30, 1942, where they perished. His sister Hilda Friedmann née Oppenheimer, born in 1888 and living in Berlin, was deported to Riga in October 1942, where she was murdered three days later.

The Stolpersteine for Siegbert and Erika Oppenheimer were already laid here in May 2022. Now the three stones for the parents and the aunt are added.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Deborah Oppenheimer, daughter of Siegbert Oppenheimer. They were financed by Sibylle C. Roll and Celina Rodriguez Drescher.*



*Newspaper advertisement from New York.*

---

**Ostend**  
**Howaldtstraße 10**

**Moses Anspach**

Date of birth: 15.4.1889  
Detainment: 16.11.-17.12.1938 KZ Dachau  
Deportation: 15.9.1942 Theresienstadt,  
1.10.1942 Auschwitz  
Date of death: unknown (set date 8.5.1945)

**Plantina "Dina" Anspach, née Rosenthal**

Date of birth: 26.1.1890  
Deportation: 15.9.1942 Theresienstadt,  
1.10.1942 Auschwitz  
Date of death: unknown (set date 8.5.1945)

**Ilse Rothschild, née Anspach**

Date of birth: 28.5.1918  
Escape: 1941 USA

**Betty Baum, née Anspach**

Date of birth: 23.8.1919  
Escape: 1939 England

**Lotti Anspach**

Date of birth: 26.5.1922  
Forced labour from 1940 at Siemens Berlin  
Deportation: 3.3.1943 Auschwitz  
Date of death: unknown

**Ludwig Rothschild**

Geburtstag: 3.8.1906  
Detainment: 10.11. 1938-18.1.1939 KZ  
Dachau  
Escape: 1940 USA

Moses Anspach was born in 1889 in Weiler near Bad Kreuznach, the son of Michel Anspach and Babette, née Stein. He was married to Plantina, born in 1890 in Langendernbach near Limburg-Weilburg. She was a daughter of Isack Rosenthal and Hanchen, née Stern; the Rosenthal family was one of the old-established families of Langendernbach.

Moses Anspach was a trained typesetter and worked from 1912 until the beginning of 1938 for the printing company 'David Droller, Buchdruckerei',

Allerheiligenstraße 40 in Frankfurt, which was highly regarded beyond Frankfurt. In 1918, the Anspach couple lived at Rückertstraße 39, in 1932 and 1933 at Hanauer Landstraße 16, and from 1935 to 1940 at Howaldtstraße 10. On May 10, 1941, the Anspach couple had to move to Schichaustraße 4, and a little later to Schwanenstraße 20, their last residence in Frankfurt.



*Plantina und Moses Anspach*



*Lotti, Betty, and Ilse Anspach*

When the Droller company had to close in November 1938 because of the Jewish origin of the owner, Moses Anspach lost his position and subsequently could not find a new one, as David Droller's son Max confirmed in June 1960. It did not help that Moses Anspach pointed out that he had been a participant in the war from 1914 to 1918, had been wounded twice, and had received the Iron Cross, second class, as a non-commissioned officer. When the Anspach couple became completely destitute, they received support from a Jewish welfare organization; in addition, Moses Anspach had to do "Pflichtarbeit" at the "Volksdienst", meaning forced labor.

After the pogroms of November 1938, Moses Anspach was imprisoned in the Dachau concentration camp on November 16, 1938, and released on December 17, 1938.

On September 15, 1942, the Gestapo deported the Anspach couple to the Theresienstadt ghetto. Their last message from there, addressed to their daughters, was dated September 13, 1944. Immediately thereafter, the couple was deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp and murdered. Exact dates of death are not available.

The three daughters of the Anspach couple, Ilse, Betty and Lotti, were born in Frankfurt in 1918, 1919 and 1922.

Ilse learned the profession of a stenotypist. Even after her marriage in March 1939 to Ludwig Rothschild, she lived together with her parents at Howaldtstraße 10, and later with them at Schichaustraße 4.



*Ilse Rothschild, 1941*

Ilse could not escape together with her husband because her entry papers for the USA were not available in time. On June 28, 1941, she fled from Lisbon to New York on the steamer 'Excambion' of the American Export Lines. In order to obtain a place on the steamer at all, she had to travel first class, which, like the unplanned four-week stay in Lisbon, caused further high costs.

After completing her elementary schooling at the Uhlandschule, Betty Anspach learned the trade of a saleswoman at the company 'Wiener Schick' in the Kaiserstraße from 1933 to 1936, and at the same time attended commercial school, which she was unable to complete due to her Jewish background. Until her escape to England in 1939, Betty lived with her parents at



Howaldtstraße 10. In England she worked as a chambermaid, but with the outbreak of the war she was interned in a camp as an "enemy alien" for 18 months. She then worked as a saleswoman in a department store in Oxford. In 1946 she emigrated to the United States, where she married Walter Baum on February 1, 1948. She died in Teaneck/New Jersey (USA) on May 7, 1983.

Lotti also attended the Uhland School from 1929 to 1937 and then planned an apprenticeship with the company 'Wiener Schick', but it had to close before the apprenticeship began due to the anti-Jewish boycotts. In 1940, Lotti was sent to Berlin by the Secret State Police to be forced to work in a Siemens communal camp (munitions factory). Her Berlin address was Kommandantenstraße 58-59 in Berlin-Kreuzberg. In March 1943, she was deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. The date of her death is unknown.

Ludwig Rothschild, born in 1906, was the son of Isidor Rothschild (born February 28, 1878 in Essweiler), a cattle merchant living in Essweiler, and his wife Mina, who died in Essweiler in 1936.

From 1913 to 1918 Ludwig Rothschild attended the elementary school in Essweiler, then the humanistic high school in Buchen (Baden) and until 1921 the high school in Kaiserslautern. He then completed a commercial apprenticeship at the company "Theodor Strauss & Co." in Kaiserslautern (women's clothing and manufactured goods), and was eventually a commercial employee there. From 1927 he worked as a commercial employee and authorized signatory for the men's clothing factory 'Liebmann & Co.' in Frankfurt's



*Ludwig Rothschild*

Kaiserstraße. When the Jewish owner Emanuel Liebmann had to sell the company in 1938, Ludwig Rothschild lost his position and from then on lived off his savings and the support of his father, which is why he returned to Essweiler for a short time. There he was arrested on November 10, 1938 and taken to the Dachau concentration camp. Released from prison on January 18, 1939, he returned to Frankfurt and married Ilse Anspach on March 14, 1939. The Rothschild couple lived in a garret that belonged to the Anspach parents' apartment at Howaldtstraße 10.

Ludwig's father Isidor Rothschild also left Essweiler after he had been released from about two weeks' imprisonment in the Dachau concentration camp on November 28, 1938, and found his spacious apartment in Essweiler completely devastated and looted. His trading license had been revoked years earlier. In Frankfurt he lived at Großer Wollgraben 20. In 1942 he was deported to the Theresienstadt ghetto and murdered there at an unknown date.

On March 6, 1940, Ludwig Rothschild fled to the USA via Italy on the 'SS Manhattan' of the United States Line; the costs of the crossing were borne by his brother Kurt, who had fled to the USA in 1938, because Ludwig's savings were completely exhausted. His meager luggage, which he had already had shipped from Frankfurt to Antwerp in January 1940 via the freight



forwarder Isenberg in order to transport it from there to the USA, never reached its destination.

Initially, Ludwig Rothschild lived in Pittsburg, because he believed he could find work there more easily than in New York. For little pay, he worked in a bed feather factory. From 1943 to 1945 he was drafted into the American army. When he could not find any gainful employment after that, he moved to New York in 1946 with his wife Ilse, and worked in a clothing factory as a tailor's assistant and as a storekeeper. In January 1950 he was employed as a tailor's assistant by the firm 'Marks Rosenberg & Bros' in New York. The pay was so low that Ilse Rothschild also had to be gainfully employed.

On July 29, 1949, their son Irwin was born in New York.

Ludwig Rothschild died on October 6, 1974 in New York.

*The Stolpersteine were initiated by Friederike Lang, resident of Howaldtstraße 8, and financed by Erika Grönegress and Lars Spielvogel.*

---

*All images: Copyright private.*

### **Online documentation of the victims' biographies**

The detailed documentation of the biographies and fates of persecution behind the Frankfurt Stolpersteine laid since 2003 can be read (in German only) in the annual documentation of the Initiative Stolpersteine Frankfurt (available in print from the Initiative and as a PDF on the homepage - see Contact) and online on the homepage of the City of Frankfurt am Main at:

<https://frankfurt.de/frankfurt-entdecken-und-erleben/stadtportrait/stadtgeschichte/stolpersteine>

### **Contact:**

#### **Initiative Stolpersteine Frankfurt am Main e.V.**

Martin Dill - Phone: +49-179-1182418

Email: [info@stolpersteine-frankfurt.de](mailto:info@stolpersteine-frankfurt.de)

Homepage: [www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de](http://www.stolpersteine-frankfurt.de)

Twitter: [@Stolpersteine\\_FF](https://twitter.com/Stolpersteine_FF)

Instagram: [stolpersteine\\_ffm](https://www.instagram.com/stolpersteine_ffm)

