

## **Murdered 1933-1945**

**Vöhler victims of the Holocaust**



### **Erna Baruch, geb. Katzenstein und Bernhard Baruch**

Erna Baruch was born on 3 March 1882 as the daughter of Cäcilie and Samuel Katzenstein in a house in the lower Mittelgasse in Vöhl. In 1901 she married Albert Baruch and moved with him to Essen, where they were born with their two sons Bernhard and Heinz. Erna died at the age of 60 on 23 August 1942 in Auschwitz, where her son Bernhard Baruch also died a month later, on 23 September.



### **Max, Paula, Marianne und Lieselotte Cossen**

Max Cossen, born on 18 November 1899 in Weener, worked as a merchant with Ferdinand Kaiser in Vöhl from 1925 to 1927. After their marriage to Paula Meyer from Eimelrod, they lived there, later in Cologne. During the 1930s they emigrated to the Netherlands and lived in Amsterdam. After the occupation of the Netherlands by Germany, they were interned in the Westerbork camp. On 7 September 1943 Max Cossen was deported from Westerbork to Auschwitz together with his wife and two children. After arriving on 9 September, Paula Cossen and her daughters Marianne and Lieselotte were moved to the gas chambers. Max Cossen was forced to work for a few more months before he was killed on 31 March 1944.



## **Julius, Jenny und Kurt Flörsheim**

Julius Flörsheim, born on 25. 10. 1883 in Wolfhagen, was a teacher at the Jewish school in Vöhl from 1907 to 1914. In 1913 he was one of the founders of a shooting club. In 1914 he moved to Frankfurt as a middle school teacher, where he taught at various schools until 1935, then until October 1941 in institutions for Jewish children. After the pogrom night, he came to Buchenwald concentration camp for six weeks at the end of 1938. In October 1941 he was deported to Lodz with his wife Jenny and son Kurt. There he died of exhaustion in early 1942, according to witnesses. Jenny Flörsheim was probably gassed in Chelmno in 1942/43, while son Kurt Flörsheim was killed in Auschwitz in 1944/45.



## **Beate Frankenthal**

Johanna and Bernhard Frankenthal's daughter Beate was born on 7 June 1892 in Vöhl. She was considered a very reserved woman in the village and remained single. Beate Frankenthal was deported to Kassel at the end of May 1942 and from there on Tuesday, June 1, to the east. On 3 June, the train arrived in Sobibor, where the train passengers were gassed immediately upon their arrival. Beate Frankenthal's name is recorded in the Commemorative Book of the nearby Majdanek camp. Possibly she died there.



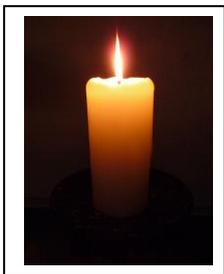
## **Berta Frankenthal**

was born on September 6, 1887 as the daughter of the Vöhler merchant Hermann Hirsch Frankenthal and his wife Emma. In eyewitness essays, she is described as a caring and helpful woman. After her father's early death, she continued to run his business on a small scale. She lived in a small house in the Arolser Straße. Shortly after the death of her mother in the spring of 1940, she moved to Frankfurt, from where she was deported to the East on 22 November 1941. Members of SS Einsatzgruppe A shot them on the 25th November in Fort IX in Kaunas (Lithuania).



### **Johanna Frankenthal, geb. Bachrach**

Johanna Frankenthal was born on 7 July 1868 in Langenschwarz near Hünfeld and married Bernhard Frankenthal in 1891. The couple lived with their daughters Beate and Ida on the school mountain in the center of Vöhl. In the early morning of September 6, 1942, they the Mayor and another leading Vöhler NSDAP member get her out of her house and took she to Itter station. From there she was deported via Kassel on 7 September to Theresienstadt, where she died on 18 November 1942 at the age of 74.



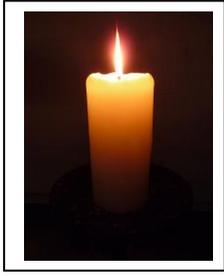
### **Lina Goldblum, geb. Blum**

was born on 18.7.1884 as the child of the Vöhler Abraham and Frida Blum. In 1906 she married the merchant Adolf Goldblum from Witten and moved to him. The two ran a grocery store there. They were born with their son Heinz. In 1921, Lina Goldblum donated to the foundation of the Memorial to the Fallen of World War I, in which her brother Louis died. Lina Goldblum died on 13 October 1937 at the age of 53.



### **Emma Hirsch, geb. Katz**

was born on 2. January 1882 in Korbach. She married Maximilian Hirsch and moved to Sachsenhausen. The children Bernhard, Hildegard and Else were born to them. In 1934 her husband died and she moved back to Korbach. At the end of September 1939 she lived with her sister Hermine Rothschild in Vöhl for a few weeks, probably to help her after the death of her husband Alfred Rothschild, and then moved back to Korbach. On June 1, 1942, she was deported from Kassel via Lublin to Sobibor, where she probably died on June 3 in a gas chamber.



### **Johanna Jacobs, geb. Blum**

also comes from the old Vöhler family Blum, which has been established at least since 1705 with residence. She was born in 1890 as the daughter of merchants Abraham and Frida Blum. Her last known place is the Latvian capital Riga, where she was probably killed in the early 1940s.



### **Johanna Jacobs, geb. Laser**

was born on 22.3.1890 in Vöhl as the daughter of the Jewish teacher Joseph Laser and his wife Bertha. After her father's death in 1907, she moved with her mother to Kassel. In 1931 she married the plumber Justus Jacobs and lived with him in Gelsenkirchen. From there she was "evacuated" in 1942, as one euphemistically called. She died on 5 Nov. 1943 in the gas chambers of Auschwitz.



### **Ferdinand und Ida Kaiser**

Ferdinand Kaiser was born on January 10, 1866. His parents moved from Basdorf to Vöhl in the middle of the 19th century to a house in the upper Arolser Straße. In February 1903, the widower married Ida Löwenstern, who was born in Korbach in 1869 and gave birth to two more children. Together with a partner, he drove the "Kaiser-Café" in Korbach from 1908 to 1912. With his family he continued to live in Vöhl, where he ran a business for manufactured goods, national products and fertilizers. At the beginning of the century he was a member of the municipal council and the ways commission and worked as an honorary judge in court. He was one of the founders of the war memorial for the fallen of world war. In 1935 he sold his business in Vöhl and in 1936 moved with his wife Ida to relatives in Frankfurt. On 19 August 1942 they were deported to Theresienstadt, where Ida Kaiser died on 17 March and Ferdinand on 20 December 1943.



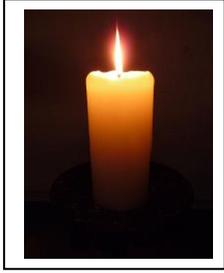
### **Ruth, Helmut und Robert Katzenstein**

Ruth Katzenstein was born on 8 December 1911 in Vöhl, the daughter of Moritz Mildenberg and his wife Helene, née Kugelmann. Ruth married Helmut Katzenstein and lived with him during the war in Amsterdam, where son Robert was born. The three were interned in the Westerbork concentration camp and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau on 31 August 1943. On September 3, 1943, the train arrived there, and most of the occupants – including Ruth and three-year-old Robert Katzenstein – were gassed on the day of their arrival. Helmut Katzenstein was admitted to the camp, had to perform forced labour and died on 31 March 1944 in Auschwitz.



### **Friederike Katzenstein, geb. Jakob,**

named Rickchen, was born on 24.6.1870 in Sachsenhausen. In 1906 she first came to Vöhl as a housemaid to Samuel Katzenstein, who had just been widowed, and married the now 76-year-old man a few months later. After his death, she continued his colonial goods business alone. On September 6, 1942, she was taken out of the house by two men at four o'clock at night and left Vöhl with the things she could pack in a backpack. A witness told how she saw little Rickchen Katzenstein walking along Basdorfer Straße with her backpack on her back between two big men. She was deported from Itter station to Kassel and from there to Theresienstadt on 8 September. She died there on 19 September at the age of 72.



### **Dina Kratzenstein, geb. Strauß**

was born on 14.4.1867 in Eimelrod. After her marriage to the Marienhagen innkeeper, merchant and farmer Felix Kratzenstein, she lived with him in the building, which is now known as the "old country school home".

They had four children: Hermann, Hedwig, Herda and Julius. In January 1936 she emigrated with the family of her daughter Hedwig to Holland. At an unknown time, she was interned in the Westerbork concentration camp, from where she was taken to the Sobibor detention centre on 27 April 1943. After her arrival on April 30, she was probably gassed immediately.



### **Hermann, Emilie, Ilse und Erich Kratzenstein**

Hermann Kratzenstein was born on 5.2.1891 in Marienhagen as the son of Felix and Dina Kratzenstein. Right at the beginning of World War I, he was awarded the Iron Cross for his bravery in front of the enemy. In

1918 he married Emilie, née Wertheim, and moved to Niedermarsberg. The couple had three children: Erich, Hilde and Ilse. Probably before the beginning of the war they moved to the Netherlands and lived in Enschede. On 21 April 1943 Hermann and Emilie were deported to Theresienstadt, and on 20 January 1944 Ilse and Erich Kratzenstein. On 28 September Hermann and Erich Kratzenstein were taken to Auschwitz, and on 4 October Emilie and Ilse to Auschwitz; The latter arrived two days later and were probably gassed immediately upon arrival. On 22.10.1944 Hermann Kratzenstein was transferred to the command of Leitmeritz of the Flossenbürg concentration camp, where he died on 27 January 1945. Erich Kratzenstein came to the Flossenbürg concentration camp, probably to do forced labor in the quarry there. The 17-year-old died there on 31 March 1945, a few weeks before the end of the war.



## **Antonie Kugelmann**

was born on Feb. 5, 1886, the daughter of Isaac and Sara Kugelmann. Together with her four siblings she grew up in a house in the Vöhler Kirchweg. In Frankfurt she learned the profession of seamstress and worked as a housekeeper. In 1921 she was one of the founders of the Memorial to the Fallen of the First World War at the Masloh, to which she felt obliged mainly because her brother Max had fallen in this war. In the mid-thirties she lived in Cologne. On 30 October 1941 she was transferred to Lodz, where she lived until her murder in the extermination camp Chelmno (Kulmhof) in May 1942.



## **Helene Kugelmann**

was born on October 8, 1888 in Korbach. Her mother died in 1888, and his father died 20 years later. In 1911 she married the Vöhler butcher Moritz Mildenberg. She moved to him and they had daughters Ruth and Else. The couple divorced in 1924. Helene took her maiden name again and moved with her daughters to Schwerte. In the 1930s she emigrated to the Netherlands with the family of her now married daughter Ruth; they lived in Amsterdam. Especially tragic: In 1938 she visits her daughter Else in Palestine, but she returns to the Netherlands. After the invasion of the Germans, she was interned with the family of her daughter Ruth in the Westerbork concentration camp. Ruth was deported to Auschwitz with her husband and son at the end of August 1943; Helene followed three weeks later, on September 21. On September 23rd the train arrived at the destination. Helene Kugelmann was gassed on the day of arrival.



## **Helene Külsheimer**

was born on 15.2. 1874 as the daughter of the merchant Bendix and his wife Rosa Külsheimer in Basdorf, where she lived together with her five siblings. The Külsheimer family has demonstrably lived there before 1800. Helene Külsheimer then moved to Bad Wildungen and from the mid-30s to Kassel. On 7 September 1942 she was deported to Theresienstadt, where she slept in an attic for five months and occasionally got to eat bread and potatoes. She died there on 17 November 1942 of dysentery and abdominal typhoid fever. A rabbi gave the funeral speech for 50 dead at the same time. She was buried in a beautiful linen cloth, as a friend wrote to the relatives in Palestine



## **Leopold, Else-Eva und Heinz-Egon Laser**

Leopold Laser was born on 29.2.1884 in Vöhl as the son of the Jewish teacher Joseph Laser and his first wife Karoline, where he also grew up together with his six siblings. The Lasers lived in the large house on Arolser Straße, which had been built by Ascher Rothschild and which also housed the Jewish School. Leopold Laser was an apprentice in action at Eisenach, then also worked in Bochum and Hüsten and married Else Goldberg. The couple had three children. The family last lived in Hagen. Leopold and Else-Eva Laser and their son Heinz-Egon were deported from Hagen to Auschwitz on 2 March 1943 and probably gassed on the next day.



## **Markus, Minna und Sally Lazarus**

Markus Lazarus was born on June 18, 1867 in Oberwerba, the son of Hirsch and Schönchen Lazarus. Around 1890 he married Minna Rosenbaum, moved with her to Vöhl and lived in a house near Brunkel and Kirle. They were born with two children, the second of whom died after a few days. Around 1900 he married Minna Müller from Herleshausen. Son Sally was born in 1901. From 1905 they lived in Kassel. On 7 September 1942, Markus and Minna Lazarus were deported to Theresienstadt. Markus Lazarus died there on May 4, 1943, his wife Minna six weeks later on June 19, 1943. Son Sally Lazarus died on February 25, 1945 in the Mauthausen concentration camp.



## **Minna Lazarus**

was born on 8.2. 1879 as the daughter of Hirsch and Schönchen Lazarus in Oberwerba and moved with them to Vöhl, where she grew up. From 1915 she lived in Kassel; from there she was deported to the Riga Ghetto on 9 December 1941. There their trace is lost.



## **Gustav, Selma, Arno und Norbert Lorsch**

The Lorsch family lived in Alsfeld. Gustav Lorsch, born in 1894, worked for some time as a trade assistant with Abraham Blum in Vöhl. He, his wife Selma, née Stiefel (1898) and the children Arno (1927) and Norbert (1928) were deported from Darmstadt to Poland on 30 September 1942 and probably gassed in the extermination camp Treblinka.



## **Ludwig Meyer**

born on 17.10.1912 in Bremke, son of the Jewish teacher Louis Meyer and his wife Paula, lived with his family between 1914 and 1926 in Vöhl, then in Korbach. According to a brother, he was a victim of the Holocaust. Nothing is known about the time and place of death.



### **Minna Meyer, geb. Kaiser**

was born on October 29, 1864 in Vöhl. In 1889 she married Meier Meyer and lived with him in Bremen. On 8 November 1941, she was interned in the Hamburg Lodge house and probably deported to Minsk on the same day, where the train arrived on 11 November 1941. Probably the already quite old Minna Meyer did not live long. The timing and circumstances of the death are not known.



### **Margot und Minna Mildenberg, geb. Spier**

Minna Spier was born in 1892 in Allendorf an der Lumda. She was the first wife of the Vöhler butcher Albert Mildenberg, had a daughter Margot with him and lived with him in Frankfurt. When he emigrated, she did not want to accompany him. On 25 March 1942, Minna Mildenberg and her daughter Margot were deported to the Piaski ghetto near Lublin. It is unknown whether they were both killed there or in the extermination camps of Belzec or Sobibor.



## **Max Mildenberg**

He was born on January 6, 1902, the son of Salomon and Amalie Mildenberg. He spent his youth together with his sister Rosalie in his parents' house in the Mittelgasse. Even as a youth he was an active member of the sports and singing club. In December 1930 he married the daughter of an evangelical master craftsman. A daughter was born in the following year. Max Mildenberg ran a mixed goods business, which he had to give up in the mid-1930s; most recently he worked for the company Rohde in road construction and lived with his wife, child and mother in the parents' house.

On 10 November 1938 he was deported via Kassel to Buchenwald. As inmate No. 25388 he lived there in Block 4a until March 1939. Under the condition that he leaves Germany within a year and after his family had paid a large sum to the Kassel SS, he was released home. Max Mildenberg emigrated to Belgium. After the beginning of the "Western Campaign" in the spring of 1940, he was arrested again and imprisoned in several French camps. On 2 September 1942 he was deported by train from Drancy near Paris to Auschwitz, where he was probably gassed on 6 September 1942.



## **Emanuel und Sophie Nussbaum, geb. Frankenthal**

Sophie Frankenthal was born on June 17, 1889 in Vöhl. She was the sister of Berta Frankenthal. In 1912 she married the merchant Emanuel Nussbaum and had with him the son Joseph and the daughter Siddi. In 1921, she contributed to the construction of the war memorial for the fallen of world war on the Masloh. The Nussbaums lived in the district of Hünfeld and later moved to Frankfurt. Together with her husband, she was deported to Theresienstadt on 16 September 1942, from there on 23 January 1943 to Auschwitz, where she was then probably killed. On December 23, 1942, her husband Emanuel Nussbaum died in Theresienstadt. She turned 53, he 61.



### **Mathilde Scharff, geb. Nußbaum**

She was born in Niederaula in 1893, and from 1910 worked as a "support of the housewife" with Ferdinand and Ida Kaiser in Vöhl. She was deported to an unknown location at an unknown time.



### **Bertha Schiff, geb. Hirsch**

born on August 5, 1875 in the province of Poznan, came at the end of the 19th century together with her husband to Vöhl and lived here in a house in the intersection of Arolser Str./Schulberg, which had been demolished decades ago. In 1912 she moved with her husband to Korbach. On 15 July 1942 she was taken to Kassel, later to Theresienstadt, where she died on 6 May 1944 at the age of 69.



## **Alfred und Hermine Rothschild**

Alfred Rothschild was born on 4 October 1871 in Vöhl as the son of Moritz and Karoline Rothschild, whose Vöhler pedigree dates back at least to 1705. In 1904 he married Hermine Katz, who was born on 4.8.1877 in Korbach. A year later, son Richard was born, who emigrated to Palestine in 1935 after a short apprenticeship in the Hachschara Grünen. Alfred Rothschild received the Iron Cross during the First World War, which he often pinned to his chest in the 1930s when he walked through the village.

He owned the inn "Prince Wilhelm"; Wife Hermine cooked for the guests there. In the 1920s and early 1930s he was director of the amateur play group and a member of the Vöhler municipal council. Even in 1933 he still wanted to run for the municipal council, but he had no chance to be elected.

On the night of November 10 to 11, 1938, he was arrested and deported via Kassel to the Buchenwald concentration camp. A week after his return, he died on 13 September 1939 at the age of 67 from the consequences of the concentration camp treatment at the brother-in-law's house in Korbach. Wife Hermine returned to Vöhl, where she now lived for rent, because Prince William had been "arized".

On May 29, 1942, she disappeared from here. On 1 June she was deported from Kassel via Lublin to Sobibor, where she probably died on 3 June in a gas chamber. Sister Emma and brother Siegfried were part of the same transport.



## **Selma Rothschild**

was born on February 10, 1867 in Vöhl. She was Alfred Rothschild's sister. Until her deportation, she lived on the top floor of the house built by her grandfather Ascher in Arolser Straße. At the beginning of September 1942 she was taken from her apartment, on 6 September she was deported from Itter station to Kassel and then to Theresienstadt. From there she was taken to the Treblinka extermination camp at the end of September, where she was killed in the gas chambers on 1 or 2 October.



### **Ernst und Berta Schönhof**

Ernst Schönhof was born on 23 June 1864 in Vöhl, the son of Jakob and Rosalie Schönhof. He learned the profession of merchant, married Bertha Östreicher and lived with her in Hamburg. Bertha Schönhof was deported from Frankfurt, Ernst on 27 September from Darmstadt to Theresienstadt. By that time, his wife had already been dead for a week. Ernst Schönhof also died on 2 November 1942 in Theresienstadt.



### **Louis, Rosa und Ilse Schönthal**

Louis Schönthal was born on 1 April 1895 in Marienhagen, the son of Moses and Regine Schönthal. In 1925 he married Rosa Löwenstein, who was born in Affoldern on 13.12.1902. On 15.11.1927 their daughter Ilse was born to them. They lived in Marienhagen, first in house no. 50, which burned down in 1928 as a result of a lightning strike, then in house no. 35 on the main road. Louis Schönthal was a trademan by profession. He moved with his family to Herford in 1937. In December 1941 they were deported to Riga. Louis Schönthal is said to have been killed by gunshots during a punitive action. The memorial book of the Federal Archives mentions the 30th June 1942 as the date of his death, but then notes that he was declared dead. A Riga survivor reported that Rosa Schönthal had been shot together with her daughter.



### **Albert und Rosalie Stern**

Rosalie Stern was born on September 22, 1866, Albert Stern on June 22, 1869, as the children of David and Bertha Stern, and lived in Vöhl, where the family has been documented since 1705. They owned houses 1 and 3 in The Middle Lane, where they ran a business. In the mid-1930s, the siblings sold the Vöhler houses and moved to Frankfurt. On 15 September 1942 they were deported to Theresienstadt. Albert Stern died there at the age of 73 on 31 October 1942, Sister Rosalie on 18 February 1943.



### **Martin, Rosalie und Günter Sternberg**

Rosalie was born on 13.7.1904 in Vöhl, the daughter of the merchant Salomon and his wife Amalie Mildenberg. In May 1931 she married Martin Sternberg from Katzenfurt near Wetzlar, who was one year older, in the Vöhler Synagogue. On 20.8.1932 their son Günter Siegfried was born to them. During the Third Reich they stayed in Vöhl and lived in the Mittelgasse, most recently in Basdorfer Straße. Martin Sternberg could no longer earn his money as a merchant and worked for the company Rohde in civil engineering. In 1938, the family wanted to emigrate, but it did not happen. Rosalie and Martin Sternberg had made contact with their brother Max in the Gurs camp in southern France, and were sentenced to one week in prison in 1941. In the spring of 1942, the family was taken to the collective camp in Wrexen and deported east from there on 1 June. Rosalie and son Günter were gassed on June 3 at the Sobibor extermination camp. Martin Sternberg was taken off the train in Lublin and had to perform forced labor in the Majdanek concentration camp. He died on September 5, 1942, at the age of 39.



### **Bertha, Hugo und Eleonore Strauß**

Bertha Frankenthal was born on 19.10.1858 as the daughter of Selig and Jettchen Frankenthal in Vöhl, where she grew up together with her siblings Hermann, Lina, Bernhard and Julius. In 1889 she married the merchant Jacob Strauss from Eimelrod and had with him several children, among them the son Hugo, who married Eleonore Reinberg from Kamen in 1921 and had with her the daughter Hanna. The family emigrated from Germany to Amsterdam, but was deported to the Westerbork camp on 20 March 1943 and from there to Auschwitz on 7 September of the same year, where they were killed on 10 September. Only the daughter Hannelore survived.



## **Hedwig, Max, Berni und Gertrud Winter**

Hedwig was born on 28.2.1895 in Marienhagen as the daughter of the innkeeper and farmer Felix Kratzenstein and his wife Dina. Together with three siblings she grew up in the so-called "Altes Landschulheim". In 1919 she married the cigar maker Max Winter, who was born on 23.9.1889, with whom she had two daughters Berni (born 16.10.1920) and Gertrud (born 9.6.1924). Max Winter continued the restaurant of his deceased father-in-law in Marienhagen. In January 1936, the whole family, including Hedwig's mother Dina Kratzenstein, emigrated to the Netherlands. They were interned in Westerbork during the war. Daughter Berni married Karel van Gelder there on 7 October 1942. Max, Hedwig, Berni and Gertrud were deported to Auschwitz on 16 October of the same year. The three women were probably gassed on 19.10., their arrival day. For Max Winter, the 31.3.1944 was designated as the date of death. Where and when exactly he died is unknown.