

1 SAUERSTADEN / CORNER OF LINDENSTRASSE

Adolf Steinberger (1876–1942)
Marianne Steinberger, née Levy (1874–1942)

Adolf Steinberger, who came from Angenrod in Hessen, ran a textile shop from a representative corner house on Sauerstaden. He was a respected citizen, well integrated into the village life. He was a member of the local music society for many years. Marianne came from an old established family in Bollendorf. Her father, Alois Levy (1843–1900), started the shop, which his son-in-law then took over.

Due to the increasing threat from the Nazi state, the family Steinberger fled to nearby Echternach in 1939. After the occupation of Luxembourg by the German troops, they tried to emigrate overseas, but they did not succeed. By autumn of 1941, they were forced into the transit camp "Fünfbrunnen". From there they were deported to the Ghetto Theresienstadt/CZ on 28.7.1942. On 23.9.1942 they were already transported to the extermination camp Treblinka/PL, where both were murdered on arrival.

Erna Plonsker, née Steinberger (1908–1942)
Herbert Franz Joachim Plonsker (1898–1942)

Erna was the second daughter of Adolf and Marianne Steinberger. In March 1935, she married Herbert Plonsker, a travelling salesman from Trier, who worked in Echternach, where the couple lived. They were both deported with the first transport from Luxembourg to the Ghetto Litzmannstadt (Lodz) on 16 October 1941. Herbert died there on 7.5.1942. Erna was officially expelled from the ghetto in April 1942 and brought to the Chelmo/PL extermination camp and murdered the following month.

Irma Stern, née Steinberger (*1903)
Isaak Stern (*1895)
Norbert Markus Stern (*1927)
Arnold Adolf Stern (*1933)

Irma, the eldest daughter of the couple Steinberger, married the salesman Isaak Stern, who worked in her father's business. The Sterns had two sons born in Bollendorf: Norbert and Arnold. Irma and Isaak were able to save their own lives and that of their children by escaping overseas in 1939: In Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic they found a new home and a future.



Adolf

Irma

Arnold & Norbert

2 LINDENSTRASSE 17

Moritz Levy (1896–1945)
Emilie Levy, née Wolff (1896–1943)
Josef Levy (1923–1942)
Armand Levy (1925–1942)



Josef

Armand

The family Levy owned several houses in Bollendorf and Wittlich. In Wittlich, Moritz Levy ran a delicacies and colonial shop, also selling pictures and frames. Due to the political circumstances, the couple together with their two sons left Wittlich in 1935 and moved to Niederanven, Luxembourg. In May 1936 Moritz exchanged his properties in Wittlich and Bollendorf for a farm in Heiderscheidergrund/L, where the family then lived.

On 16 October 1941, Moritz, Emilie, Josef and Armand Levy were deported from the main Luxembourg railway station to the Ghetto Litzmannstadt (Lodz). How and where Emilie died is not fully known; she probably died in Lodz 1943. The two boys were further transported to the Chelmo/PL extermination camp and murdered in September 1942. Moritz Levy was transferred to the Groß-Rosen/PL concentration camp on 16.12.1943. He died there on 7 January 1945, a month before the liberation of the camp by the Soviet army.

3 NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 33

Esther Levy, née Baum (1859–1943)

Esther Baum, born in Bosen in the district of Birkenfeld, married Isaak Levy (1857–1931), a street vender from Aach. Their first children, Amalia (1887–1942) and Delphine (1889–1942), were born in Aach. In 1890, the family moved to Bollendorf, where their son Albert (1890–1942) was born. Esther Levy was forced to sell the house in the Neuerburgerstraße in 1941. She tried to save her life by escaping to Luxembourg, probably with the support of her daughter Delphine and her husband Siegfried Mayer (who lived in the Bachstraße). The necessary papers for further travel had been requested, but they did not arrive in time. On October 24, 1941, Esther was sent to the former monastery "Fünfbrunnen" in the north of Luxembourg, which was classified by the Nazis as a "Jewish retirement home". From there she was deported to Theresienstadt on April 6, 1943, shortly before her 84th birthday, where she died on 31.5.1943.

4 BETWEEN ABTEIHOF AND SAUERSTADEN

Daniel Abraham Levy (1886–1944)
Klara Levy, née Levy (1890–1943)
Adolf Levy (1926–1937)
Betty Levy, married Goldschmidt (1920–2008)



Daniel

Klara

Adolf

Betty

Daniel A. Levy, whose hand was so badly injured in the First World War, could no longer work as a tailor. From then on he traded in cattle and goods instead. Klara Levy was a housewife. The couple had two children: Betty and Adolf.

Adolf (Adi) died aged ten on 8th January 1937, as a result of a brutal crime committed in Bollendorf in 1935, which was never properly investigated. In the early 1930s the Levy family built a house in the Altschmiedestraße. Before that, they had lived in a small, rented house, which no longer exists, in a narrow alley between Abteihof and Sauerstaden. After the enforced loss of their property, Daniel and Klara were forced into the "Jewish house" (as declared by the Nazis) in Burgstraße. Daniel and Klara Levy were deported to the Theresienstadt ghetto on 28.7.1942. Klara died there on 24.7.1943. Daniel Abraham was transferred to Auschwitz in October 1944, where he was gassed immediately on arrival.

Betty survived the Holocaust as the only family member. She was able to flee from Cologne via the Netherlands to England in 1939. There she first found employment as a servant in different houses. She was interned for several months as a "foreign enemy" in a camp on the *Isle of Man*. Betty later married Rudolf Goldschmidt from Vienna, with whom she had two children. After the war, she twice visited Bollendorf for a short stay.

A video interview with Betty, conducted in 1997, is held at the *Institute for Visual History and Education* in Los Angeles. The recordings were made as a result of the Steven Spielberg film *Schindler's List* from the year 1993. The director then set himself the task of making as many interviews as possible with survivors of the Holocaust – primarily for the purpose of education for subsequent generations.

5

KIRCHSTRASSE 32

Synagogue



From the middle of the 19th century Jewish people increasingly settled in Bollendorf. The community grew steadily to 110 members up to the First World War, representing approximately 9% of the population. This increase led to the construction of the synagogue, which was consecrated in 1889 and could contain around 100 people. On special occasions a rabbi would come from Trier or Luxembourg to hold the service. In the course of the devastating destruction in the "Pogrom Night" on November 9, 1938, the synagogue was set on fire. The remaining outside walls of the building were rebuilt into a family home in 1958.

6

BACHSTRASSE 4

Karl Mayer (1857–1942)**Adelheid Mayer, née Kahn (1863–1942)****Siegfried Mayer (1890–1942)****Delphine Mayer, née Levy (1889–1942)**

From about 1910 the horse trader Karl Mayer lived with his wife Adelheid and their son Siegfried in Bollendorf. After the marriage of Siegfried and Delphine Levy from Neuerburgerstraße, they all lived together in the house at Bachstraße 4.

Karl and Adelheid Mayer were evacuated with other Jewish and non-Jewish people because of the outbreak of war. The couple were first held in Wolfenbüttel, and then registered in Lehrte in April 1940 and finally in Hildesheim from December 1941. The Mayers lived in "Jewish houses", used by the Nazis as gathering rooms for dispossessed Jewish people. On 23.7.1942, Karl and Adelheid were deported from Hanover to the ghetto Theresienstadt. Adelheid died there on 29 August 1942, Karl a few weeks later on 18.11.1942.

Siegfried and Delphine Mayer probably fled during the mid 1930s from Bollendorf to Luxembourg. They were last resident in Ettelbruck. The couple were deported from Luxembourg to Polish Lodz on 16.10.1941. Siegfried died there in the ghetto on 15 August 1942. Delphine received an official "expulsion" from the ghetto and was taken to the Chelmno/PL extermination camp, where she was murdered on 11 September 1942.

The "stumbling stones" for the Mayer-family could not be placed directly in front of their former residential house in the Bachstraße 4. They were therefore placed in front of the house opposite. The inscriptions on the stones however face towards the actual house.

7

NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 38

Daniel Levy (1901–1989)**Ernestine Levy, née Ermann (1898–1944)****Ilse Levy (1925–1944/45)****Günther Leopold Levy (1928–1944/45)**

The entire family was deported from Luxembourg on 16 October 1941 to the Ghetto Litzmannstadt (Lodz). After their escape from Germany on 11 March 1938, they lived in Reiserühle, municipality of Ermsdorf/L. On 12.8.1944 they were transported together from Lodz to Auschwitz. Immediately on arrival the family was separated: Ernestine and the children Ilse and Günther were murdered in Auschwitz. Daniel Levy was there until the liberation of the concentration camp by the Soviet Army in January 1945. He returned to Luxembourg on April 4, 1945, and settled there until September 1947. Then he immigrated to the USA, where he settled in New York City. In America, he married again. His second wife, Selma Kanter (1909–2000), was also a survivor of the Holocaust: She was liberated in the concentration camp Riga. The couple lived in the USA for a long time, but later moved back to Luxembourg, where they lived to the end. They did not want to return to Germany.

8

NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 48

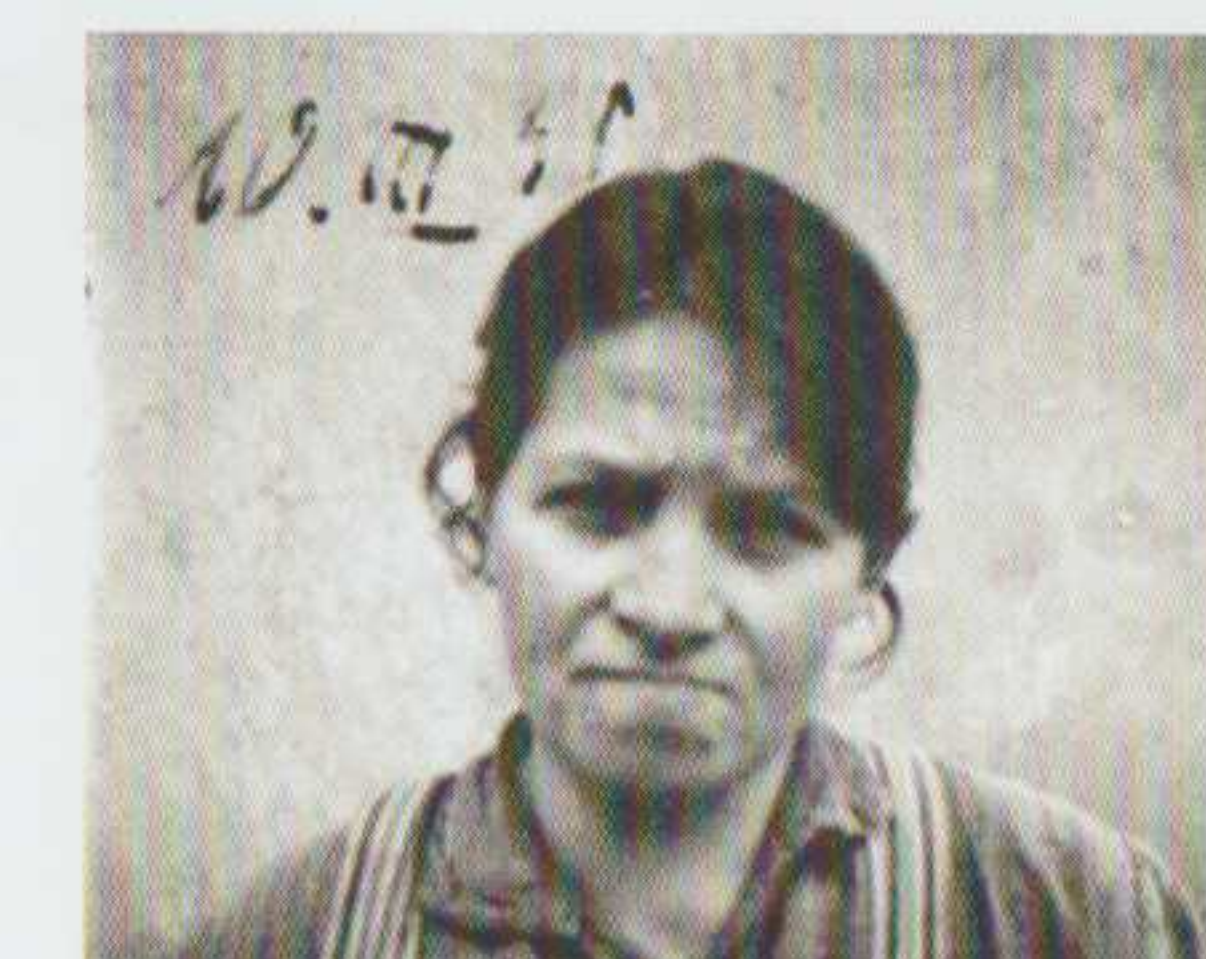
Max Mayer (1896–1992)**Hedwig Mayer, née Kahn (1902–1996)****Manfred Mayer (1928–1997)****Kurt Mayer (*1933)**

Max Mayer was, like his father Salomon (1865–1932), a professional horse trader. Salomon Mayer came from Könen (today a part of Konz) to Bollendorf and married Babette Bonem (1864–1942), from Tritenheim. The couple had seven more children; all lived in a house in Kirchstraße. Mother Babette died in Bollendorf 10 March 1942, after a long illness. She was buried in Trier in the Jewish part of the municipal cemetery, because the Jewish cemetery in Bollendorf had been destroyed.

Shortly after her death, the last remaining Jewish people in the village were deported and murdered in the extermination camps in the east: among them Paula Hein, a sister of Max, and her husband Leo. Max and his family were more fortunate; they managed to save their lives by fleeing overseas. In 1936, they immigrated to the USA and settled in St. Louis, Missouri. Two sisters and a brother were killed by the siblings of Max Mayer: Paula Hein in Belzec, Bertha Lazard and Moritz Mayer in Auschwitz.

9

NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 66

Theresia Spang (1897–1944)

At the age of almost 30 years, Theresia Spang was sent to the *Provincial Health and Care Institution Andernach* suffering from depression. During the Nazi regime, the Andernach clinic was a place of terror, where the violent crime of "euthanasia" was prepared and committed. The inmates, considered as "unworthy life" by the Nazis, became the victims due to the so-called "National Socialist Race Hygiene". The killing was propagated by the Nazis as a "saviour death" through the perverted use of the term "euthanasia".

At first Andernach was an "interim institution", in which patients were collected and selected during the "T4 action" for transportation to the Hadamar killing camp. There, the newcomers were gassed directly. After Hitler ordered the stop of transport to Hadamar in August 1941 the killing continued in Andernach itself. This decentralized approach was called "wild euthanasia". The murder of the patients was carried out in various ways, among others, through medicine overdoses or starvation.

Theresia Spang must be regarded as one of the victims of this "wild euthanasia". She died in December 1944 – at a time, when the killing in the clinic Andernach had reached a cruel climax. On the day of her death, 18.12.1944, the patient's file recorded as presumed cause of death "Bronchial pneumonia/schizophrenia/acute cardiac weakness".

10

SAUERSTADEN 4

Sophie Levy (1883–1942)**Helene Levy (1888–1942)**

Sophie and Helene Levy were two of the nine children of the merchant and farmer Marx Levy (1845–1918) and his wife Karolina Schoemann (1850–1928). The two sisters lived with their mother until her death in 1928 in the family house in Sauerstaden. They lived in poverty.

Due to their financial situation, their escape from Germany was not possible. Sophie and Helene lived until their deportation to Poland in their parents' house in Bollendorf. On April 23, 1942, together with other Jewish people from Bollendorf, they were first taken to Trier, from where they were transported via Stuttgart to the transit ghetto Izbica the following day. The train reached Izbica on 29.4.1942 and shortly thereafter was directed to one of the mostly frequented extermination camps – Belzec or Sobibór. There is strong evidence, however, that Sophie and Helene Levy were deported to Belzec in May 1942 and were murdered on arrival.

Johannetta Levy, née Samuel (1857–1942)
Moritz Levy (1900–1942)
Klara Levy, née Wolf (1898–1942)



Johannetta

Johannetta Levy had twelve children, four boys and eight girls, together with her husband, the cattle dealer Salomon Levy (1850–1933): Two of the girls died in infancy, three sons fell in the First World War, three daughters and one son were murdered due to the National Socialist terror.

Johannetta, together with the youngest son Moritz, ran a fabric and textile shop on the ground floor of the house in the Burgstraße. In the Pogrom Night on 9 November 1938 the house and business were demolished.

From March 1941, the building was declared a "Jewish house"; it was used by the Nazis as a collection centre, in which dispossessed Jewish people were housed. In addition to the owners, there were at least seven other Bollendorf Jewish people living here together – until their deportation to the extermination camps in the East. For their internment in the house they had to pay a monthly rent.

Daniel Levy (1880–1971)
Melanie Levy, née Cahen (1882–1968)
Irene Levy, married Mayer (1911–1991)
Martha Levy, married Kristeller (1913–2012)

Daniel Levy (baker Dani), together with his wife Melanie Cahen, ran a bakery in the Lindenstraße, which supplied bread and pastries to Bollendorf and the surrounding area. The couple had two girls: Irene and Martha. Daniel Levy was chased through the village in the "Pogrom Night" and heavily beaten. He fled shortly afterwards with his wife and the younger daughter to relatives in France. The elder daughter Irene had already emigrated to Nice in January 1938, where she lived with her husband Daniel Mayer (1908–1998), who also came from Bollendorf. During the war years, the family had to seek shelter elsewhere in order to escape the persecution which also threatened them in France.



Daniel (Mayer), Melanie, Daniel, Martha, Irene

"A person is first forgotten when his name is forgotten."

So it is written in the Talmud, one of the most important writings in Judaism. The artist Gunter Demnig from Cologne (*1947) follows this fundamental belief with his Europe-wide "stumbling stone"-project, which gives support to this important act of remembrance.

The small concrete blocks with a brass plate attached to them are dedicated to the memory of the persecuted and murdered Jewish people, so-called gypsies, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, politically persecuted and euthanasia victims, during the time of National Socialism. They show, as it were "in passing by", that previous citizens were arbitrarily excluded and dispossessed, due to their religion, their ethnicity, their sexual orientation or simply for being defined as "different".

Additional to the "stumbling stones", which are usually placed in front of the houses of former inhabitants, there will be in future several illustrated plaques, which will give more detailed information on diverse places in Bollendorf. To date, such a plaque has been placed in memory of baker Daniel Levy's family at Lindenstraße 10.

These "places of remembrance" shall be, both today and tomorrow, reminders to us to stand up for a reflected, respectful and future-oriented culture of remembrance. The remembrance of these crimes against humanity should also call upon us to defy any form of exclusion and persecution and to strive for a future which is characterized by compassion, empathy and courage.

Concerning the extinguished Jewish community of Bollendorf

The first mention of the settlement of Jewish people in Bollendorf was in the 1840s. The stone industry of the 1860/70 period formed the main economic growth in this working man's village in the South Eifel. The related demand for draft animals was met in particular by the Jewish merchants. In the last quarter of the nineteenth century the improving economic conditions led to an increase in the number of Jewish families arriving.

Up to the First World War, the Jewish community grew to 110 members, that was 9 % of the village population. This steady increase led to the construction of a synagogue in the Kirchstraße as early as the 19th century. The Jewish cemetery just outside the village probably dates from the same period as the construction of the synagogue.

Both the synagogue and the cemetery were destroyed on the so-called "Pogrom Night" on 9 November 1938. Due to the increasing threat of the Nazi state, many Jewish people had left the village long before the beginning of the war. As early as 1938, only 50 members of the Jewish faith were still living in Bollendorf. The last remaining Jewish people living in the village were deported to and murdered in the extermination camps in the East in 1942.

Would you like to support our project? Please contact us:

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Places of remembrance

In memory of the victims from
 Bollendorf of national socialism





- 1 SAUERSTADEN / CORNER LINDENSTRASSE**
Adolf Steinberger
Marianne Steinberger, née Levy
Erna Plonsker, née Steinberger
Herbert Franz Joachim Plonsker
Irma Stern, née Steinberger
Isaak Stern
Norbert Stern
Arnold Stern
- 2 LINDENSTRASSE 17**
Moritz Levy
Emilie Levy, née Wolff
Josef Levy
Armand Levy
- 3 NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 33**
Esther Levy, née Baum

- 4 BETWEEN ABTEIHOF AND SAUERSTADEN**
Daniel Abraham Levy
Klara Levy, née Levy
Adolf Levy
Betty Levy, married Goldschmidt
- 5 KIRCHSTRASSE 32**
Synagogue
- 6 BACHSTRASSE**
Karl Mayer
Adelheid Mayer, née Kahn
Siegfried Mayer
Delphine Mayer, née Levy
- 7 NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 38**
Daniel Levy
Ernestine Levy, née Ermann
Ilse Levy
Günther Leopold Levy

- 8 NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 48**
Max Mayer
Hedwig Mayer, née Kahn
Manfred Mayer
Kurt Mayer
- 9 NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 66**
Theresia Spang
- 10 SAUERSTADEN 4**
Sophie Levy
Helene Levy
- B 11 BURGSTRASSE 15**
Johannetta Levy, née Samuel
Moritz Levy
Klara Levy, née Wolf

- A LINDENSTRASSE 10**
Daniel Levy
Melanie Levy, née Cahen
Irene Levy, married Mayer
Martha Levy, married Kristeller
- C JEWISH CEMETERY**

1. SAUERSTADEN / CORNER LINDENSTRASSE
 2. LINDENSTRASSE 17
 3. NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 33
 4. BETWEEN ABTEIHOF AND SAUERSTADEN
 5. KIRCHSTRASSE 32
 6. BACHSTRASSE
 7. NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 38
 8. NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 48
 9. NEUERBURGERSTRASSE 66
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