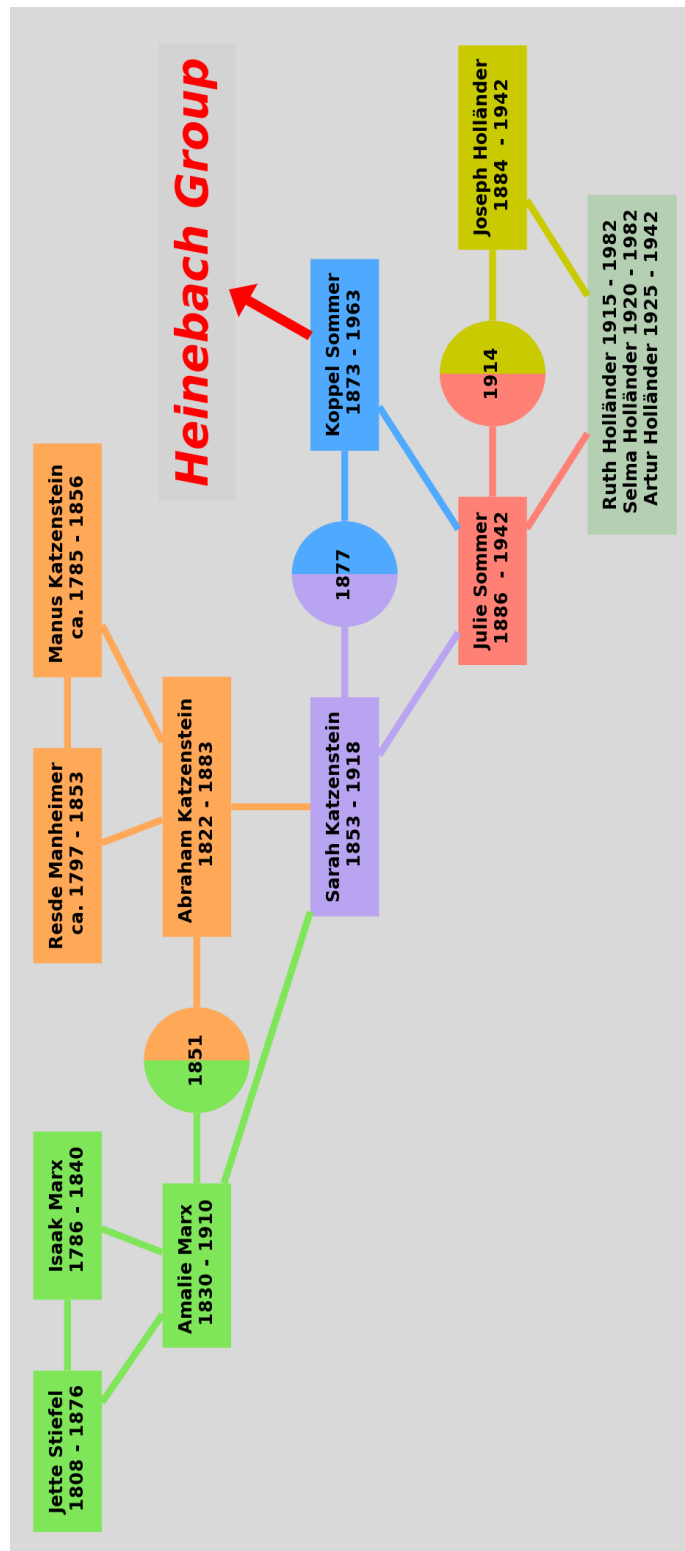


The Ancestors of Julie Sommer of Heinebach

Roger Herz-Fischler, Ottawa, Canada



The Parents, Grandparents and Great-Grandparents of Julie Sommer

Julie Sommer of Heinebach

Julie Sommer was the mother of Ruth Holländer, my mother. She was born in Heinebach in 1886, the daughter of Sarah Katzenstein of Frankenberg and Koppel Sommer of Heinebach. In 1914 she married Joseph Holländer of Hilchenbach (near Siegen). Both Julie Sommer and Joseph Holländer were deported to Zamość, Poland in 1942. In 1937 my mother had been able to obtain a visa for the U.S. and in 1940 I was born in Washington Heights, located in the upper part of Manhattan, the home of some twenty-five thousand German-Jewish refugees.

What follows is divided into two parts. The first part contains material, in a very abbreviated form, from the chapters, "The Hilchenbach Group", "Common Ancestors" and "Selma Holländer and Freddy Furcht" of my book *A Triple Love Story/The Ancestors of Eliane Herz and Roger Fischler*. The entire book, divided into chapters for convenience, can be found at either of the following two sites:

<https://people.math.carleton.ca/~rhfischl/GENEALOGY/GENEALOGY.html>

<http://web.ncf.ca/en493> → Genealogy

The second part is a copy of the chapter (with the page numbering, etc. unchanged) "The Heinebach Group" from the book *A Triple Love Story*.

The genealogical tree on the first page above shows the maternal ancestors of Julie Sommer through the great-grandparents. The tree on the first page of the second part shows the paternal ancestors of Julie Sommer through the great-grandparents.

The identification numbers associated with the various people is as follows. My wife Eliane Herz is 1 and I am 2 and at each ancestral level a 1 or 2 is added according whether the person is a female or male. Thus Albert Herz (Haiger), the father of Eliane Herz, is 1 2 etc. Julie Sommer and Koppel Sommer are 2 1 1 • 1 and 2 1 1 • 2 respectively. The parents of Sarah Katzenstein have *two* identification numbers, one starting with 1 and the other with 2, the reason being that Franziska Katzenstein, the mother of Albert Herz, was the sister of Sarah Katzenstein.

Here is a listing of the dates and places for Julie Sommer, her parents and grandparents. Earlier ancestors and their lives are discussed in the chapter, "Common Ancestors".

Julie Sommer

Julie Sommer (2 1 1) 1886.09.02, Heinebach -- 1942.04.28, deported to Zamość, Poland.

Joseph Holländer (2 1 2) 1884.09.13, Elsoff -- 1942.04.28, deported to Zamość, Poland.

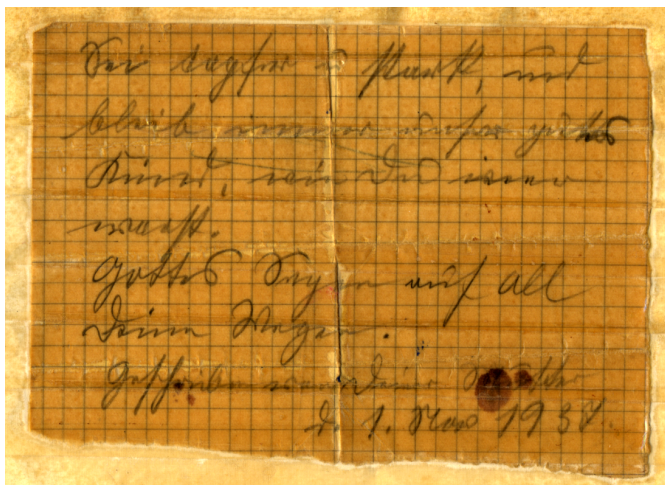
marriage: 1914.03.27, Heinebach.

Julie Sommer of Heinebach

The following photograph from 1914 was most likely the formal marriage photograph of Julie Sommer and Joseph Holländer:



My mother left Germany on November 1, 1937 and Julie Sommer gave her the following farewell note:



Be courageous and strong,
and remain our good child,
as you always have been.
Godspeed in all your
endeavours.

Written by your mother.

November 1, 1937

Julie Sommer of Heinebach

As my mother travelled she took a series of photographs and this family portrait may have been one of them:



Below is apparently the last photograph that my mother received from her parents. As the note on the back indicates it was sent for Rosh-HaShannah in the Jewish year 5700 (September 14, 1939):



*Zu Rosh-HaShannah 5700
zum Andenken*

Julie Sommer of Heinebach

children:

1. **Ruth Holländer** (21) 1915.01.09, Hilchenbach -- 1982.12.02.
She married Sigmund Fischler (originally from Leipzig) in New York on March 19, 1939. Child: Roger Fischler.
2. **Selma Holländer** 1920.09.17, Hilchenbach -- 1982.07.02, New York.
3. **Artur Holländer** 1925.04.07 Hilchenbach -- 1942.04.28, deported to Zamość, Poland.

The Parents of Julie Sommer

Sarah Katzenstein (211 • 1) 1853.07.10, Frankenau--1919.02.04, Heinebach.

Koppel Sommer (211 • 2) 1850.03.19, Heinebach -- 1935.02.19, Heinebach.

The only photograph that we have of Sarah Katzenstein is the following in which she is sitting next to Julie Sommer. It was probably taken around 1910:



Julie Sommer of Heinebach

The Maternal Grandparents of Julie Sommer

Amalie Malchen Marx (1 2 1 • 1 / 2 1 1 • 1 1) 1830.12.20, Grösen -- 1910.02.27, Frankenberg.

Abraham Katzenstein (1 2 1 • 2 / 2 1 1 • 1 2) 1822.07.22, Frankenau -- 1883.06.04, Frankenberg.

We are very fortunate in having a photograph of the Marx-Katzenstein family, which was most likely taken shortly after the family moved from Frankenau to Frankenberg in the summer of 1874. Unfortunately Sarah Katzenstein is not in the picture, which deprives us of seeing an image of her when she was twenty-one years old.



Julie Sommer of Heinebach

The baby in the picture is Franziska Katzenstein (121), the paternal grandmother of Eliane Herz.

See the chapter “Common Ancestors” for the names of the other children, as well as details concerning the maternal grandparents of Julie Sommer.

The Maternal Great-Grandparents of Julie Sommer

Jette Stiefel *Gütel Katz* (121 • 11 / 211 • 111) 1808, Rauschenberg -- 1876.05.21?, Grösen.

Issac Marx (121 • 12 / 211 • 112) ca. 1786, Grösen -- 1840.04.17, Grösen.

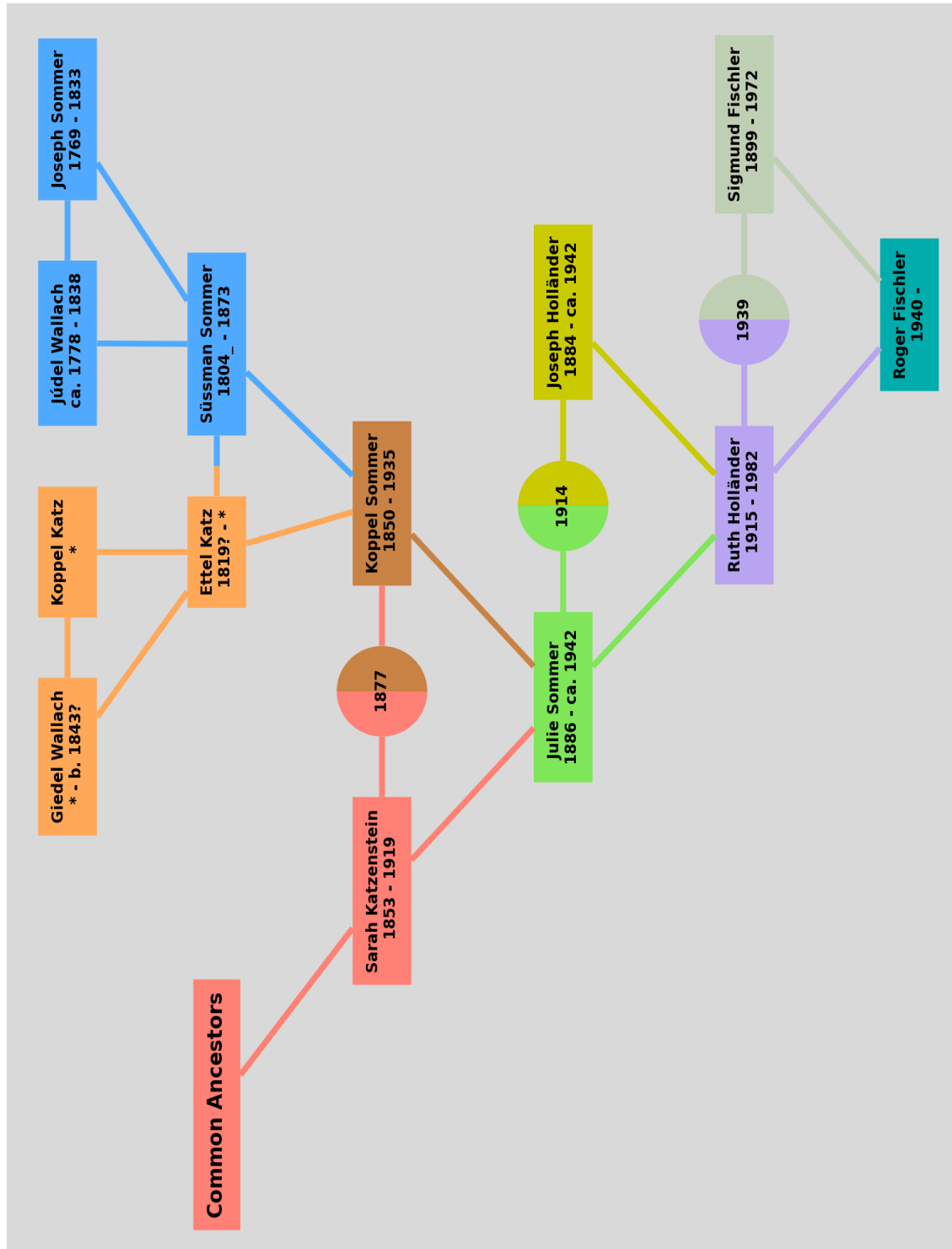
Resede Mannheimer (121 • 21 / 211 • 121) ca. 1797, Ungedanken? -- 1853.[10.18?], Frankenau.

Manus Katzenstein (121 • 22 / 211 • 122) ca. 1785, Erdmannrode -- 1856.06.07, Frankenau.

See the chapter “Common Ancestors” for details concerning the maternal great-grandparents of Julie Sommer, as well even earlier ancestors.

The Heinebach Group

The following chart partially shows the known ancestors through the three times great-grandparents of Roger Fischler(2) on his mother's maternal side. His mother's paternal side is discussed in the chapter “The Hilchenbach Group”. His father's side is discussed in the chapter “The Leipzig Group”.



Heinebach Group

Special Bibliography for the Heinebach Group

See also the “General Bibliography” in the introductory part for references that do not appear in the following list.

- [BIN] Photographs and transcriptions of the gravestones in the cemetery at Binsföörth. References to this site are in the form [BIN, grave number] Graves can be located as follows
- i. <https://www.lagis-hessen.de/en/subjects/index/sn/juf>
 - ii. search: Heinebach.
 - ii. order by the date of death. In addition to the information that appears on the gravestones there is a great deal of genealogical information. See under “Heinebach and its Jews” below for a discussion of the cemetery.
- [EIF-JU] Eifert, Manfred. 2001. “Die jüdische Gemeinde in Heinebach”.^{DVD} Available at:
<http://heinebach.de/geschichte/Juden.htm>
- [HÄDE] Häde, Sabine. 2004. *Studien zur Geschichte der jüdischen Gemeinde in Heinebach*.^{DVD} This seventy-seven page study cites many sources and provides an extensive history of the Jewish community of Heinebach. Available at:
http://www.hassia-judaica.de/Orte/Alheim-Heinebach/↪Geschichte_der_Kjued.Gemeinde/heinebach.pdf.
- [HEI-JU1] <https://www.jüdische-gemeinden.de/index.php/gemeinden/↪h-j/870-heinebach-hessen>
- [HEI-JU2] documents relating to the Jews of Heinebach. These can be accessed by searching for “heinebach” on [LAGIS] and then ordering by date; the Jewish documents are then first.

We have an interesting situation in Heinebach because while civil documents only started in 1876 the Jewish documents started in the 1820s. More precisely the birth documents (BD) started in 1825, the marriage documents (MD) in 1827 and the death documents (DD) in 1828. Thus while the BD of the children of Jüdel Wallach and Joseph Sommer are not available, there are two MD (civil and Jewish) for their son Susmann Sommer and they provide us with valuable information.

Despite the introduction of the civil registers in 1876, the separate marriage and death documents for Jewish community were kept until 1913 and the birth documents until 1925. I do not know if these later Jewish documents were required by the administration as some

Heinebach Group

seem to have been signed by what I assume is an official. A similar situation holds for Frankenau, and thus applies to Sarah Katzenstein.

- [KLE-2] Klein, Hans-Peter. 2012. *The descendants of Joseph (Meyer) Sommer and Guetel Sommer, née Wallach from Heinebach*.^{DVD} Available at:
<https://jinh.lima-city.de/index-gene.htm>
Klein cites his sources in the Wiesbaden archives.
- [NUHN] Heinrich Nuhn of Rotenburg has developed a website that deals with the Jews of the small towns of eastern Hesse; see e.g. [HÄDE]:
<http://www.hassia-judaica.de>
Nuhn was instrumental in the establishment of the Jewish museum in the former *mikveh* of Heinebach; see: <http://www.mikwe.de>

Heinebach and its Jews

N.B. Unless otherwise noted the following is based on [HÄDE, p. 7 ff.] and [EIF-JU].

Heinebach is another one of the towns in North Hesse in which our ancestors resided. It is approximately 75 km due east of Frankenberg, where the Katzenstein family had moved to in 1874, and only 63 km from their previous home in Frankenau.

The first mention of Jews in Heinebach dates from 1678. Already in 1800 there were enough Jews -- there must have been at least ten males for a *Minyan* -- to engage a leader for the services. In 1825 there were six Jewish families in the town. In 1843 a residence was converted into a synagogue, of which only the ceiling, with its painted stars, is a reminder of its former usage; see the photographs in [HÄDE, p. 7 ff.]. By 1844 there were seven families, in 1853 eleven families with sixty-one people, in 1864 seventy-six Jews, but by 1907 the community had been reduced to fifty-six individuals.

Among the other items of interest is that one of the Jewish soldiers who fought in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 was Joseph Sommer, an older brother of Koppel Sommer. We also learn that in 1931 the barn belonging to Abraham Sommer, one of children of Koppel Sommer, burned down.

There was no Jewish cemetery in Heinebach so the Jews were buried in Binsförth [BIN], which is about 8 km to the NW. It also served as the burial place for the Jews of Melsungen and other communities (Rotenburg, which is about 9 km to the southeast, had its own cemetery [NUHN]). According to [FRI-1, p.106] the cemetery dates from the middle of the seventeenth century, with the oldest legible tombstone dating from 1694. A total of 303 tombstones are shown and transcribed in [BIN] and among these are the tombstones of Sarah Katzenstein, Koppel

Heinebach Group

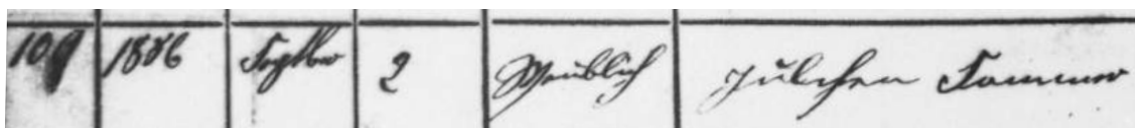
Sommer, Susmann Sommer and Joseph Sommer, the latter dating from 1833. More information concerning the cemetery appears in [ARN, "Binsförth"].

We visited the cemetery on our 2010 trip through North Hesse. It is a peaceful spot, perched on a hill at the beginning of small mountain range. As was the case elsewhere (e.g. Frankenberg and Leipzig) it was not desecrated during the Nazi period.



Julie Sommer (211)

Julie Sommer (211) 1886.09.02, Heinebach--1942.04.28, deported to Zamość, Poland [B,M,P,PIOR,BRIL].



1886.09.02: BD Julie Sommer

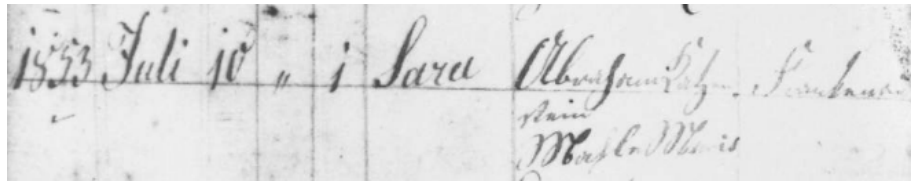
marriage: 1914.03.27, Heinebach to Joseph Holländer.

See "The Hilchenbach Group" for her life
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The Parents of Julie Sommer

Sarah Katzenstein (211 • 1) 1853.07.10, Frankenau--1919.02.04, Heinebach [BD, MD, DD, P].

Heinebach Group



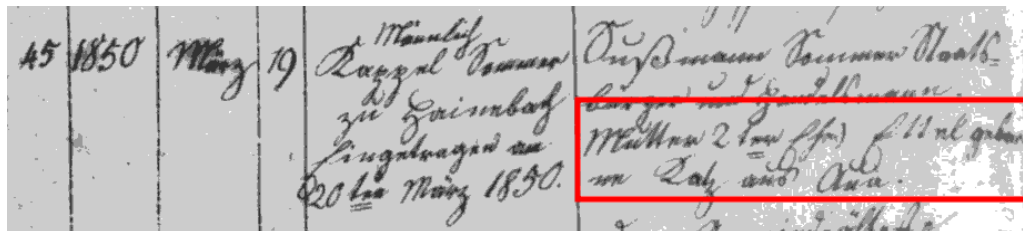
1853.07.10: BD [HEI-JU2] Sarah Katzenstein

1919	Februar	4	6/2	Offizier Tod Koppel Sommer Sara geboren Katzenstein alt 65 geb. Frankfurt
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1919.02.04: DD Sarah Katzenstein

Koppel Sommer (211 • 2) 1850.03.19, Heinebach -- 1935.02.19, Heinebach [BD, MD, DD, P].

The following BD of Koppel Sommer is of special importance because we learn that, “[his] Mother, [from the] *second marriage* of [Susmann Sommer is] Ettel née Katz from Aua”. This information will be used below in connection with his parents.

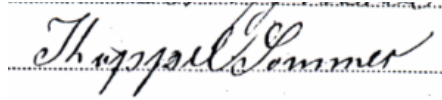


1850.03.19: BD Koppel Sommer

Normally civil documents were not signed in Germany -- unlike France -- and this deprives us of the signatures of the ancestors. An exception occurred in a copy of the BD of Abraham Sommer which was signed by his father Koppel Sommer. In fact I have three BDs, one is from the separate register of Jewish births and another from the regular civil register of births. The third one is a copy of the original civil act with a Nazi era statement from 1938 (thus after the death of Koppel Sommer) that his name had been changed from “Abraham” to “Issac”, and that is the one that Koppel Sommer signed.^{DVD} I do not know why this copy was created; it perhaps had something to do

Heinebach Group

with the Nazis being in power. This is suggested by a copy of the BD of Abraham's daughter Elsie which was signed by Abraham.



1930s?: signature of Koppel Sommer on a copy of the BD of Abraham Sommer



ca. 1910?: Julie Sommer, Sarah Katzenstein; ca. 1930?: Koppel Sommer

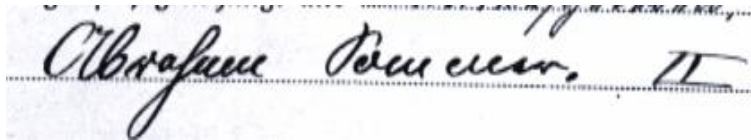
For the longest time we thought that the oldest girl in the 1874 photograph of the Marx - Katzenstein family (see the chapter, "Common Ancestors") was Sarah Katzenstein, but in fact she is Rosa Katzenstein, child no. 3. Fortunately Meta Miller [MM] sent me the photograph on the left below and, if my notes are correct, she said that the elderly lady was Sarah Katzenstein and that Julie Sommer was the young woman to her right. The latter identification seems correct if we compare the image with her engagement and later photographs. The complete photograph and the tentative identification of the other people pictured is on the DVD. Julie Sommer married in 1914 and moved to Hilchenbach, so this photograph was taken before then. A date around 1910 seems reasonable. The photograph of Koppel Sommer on the right was also given to me by Meta. I would guess that he was about eighty at the time, just about my age as I am writing this:

marriage : 1877.05.01, Heinebach [MD].

Heinebach Group

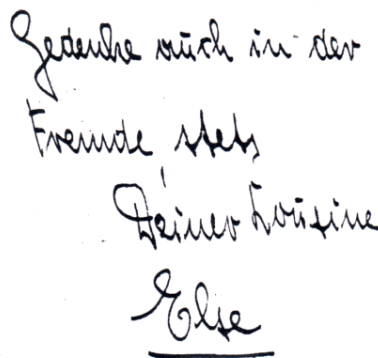
children:

1. **Jettchen Sommer** 1878.02.14, Heinebach -- * [BD, RH].
She married * Christ; two children were living in Brooklyn in 1974.
2. **Sigmund Sommer** 1879.10.05, Heinebach -- * [BD].
None of the trees that I have lists this person.
3. **Rosa Sommer** 1881.06.21, Heinebach -- 1959.01.24 [DD, MM].
She married Isack Miller of Eiterfeld; children: Bertha, Elsie, Meta (MM), Senta.
They lived in New York and we would visit them once or twice a year. I remember going to a seder at the home of the parents as a young boy. I was all excited about staying up late.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Abraham Sommer". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

BD Fritz Sommer: signature Abraham Sommer

4. **Abraham Sommer** 1884.03.21, Heinebach -- concentration camp in WWII.
He married Lina Katz; children: Elsie, Irma, Sigfried.
My mother was very close to Elsie who was born in 1914, shortly before my mother. I have a series of letters that she wrote my mother.^{DVD} She moved to Frankenberg, where her Katzenstein relatives lived and was apparently deported from there. The entire family perished.

A handwritten note in German, written in cursive script. The text reads: "Gedenke mich in der Fremde steht deiner Cousine Elsie". The name "Elsie" is underlined.

Elsie Sommer, 1937, sent to Ruth Holländer; Fritz Sommer

5. **Lina Sommer** 23.08.1885, Heinebach -- 1885.10.19, Heinebach [BA, DA].

Heinebach Group

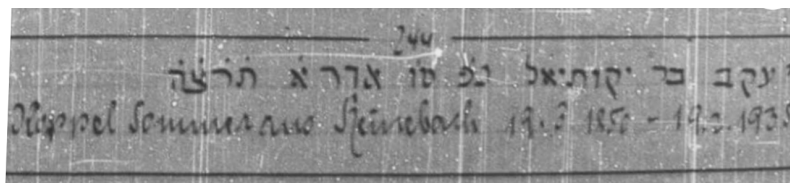
6. **Julie Sommer** (211) 1886.09.02, Heinebach-- 1942.04.28, deported to Zamość, Poland; see above.
7. **Bertha Sommer** 1889.04.02, Heinebach -- 1890.02.26, Heinebach [BA].

The Graves of Sarah Katzenstein and Koppel Sommer

The picture on the left, which we took in 2010 when we visited the Jewish cemetery in Binsförth, shows the Hebrew lettering side of the tombstone [BIN, 56] of Sarah Katzenstein. On the second line her name is written as: שרה בת אברהם הכהן, i.e. “Sarah the daughter of Abraham, the cohen”, in reference to her father Abraham Katzenstein.



During our 2010 visit to Binsföth we were unable to find the tombstone of Koppel Sommer, the reason being that the writing was barely legible. The archivists who worked on the Binsföth project relied on the text shown below [LAGIS, binsförth, act 365, 72, entry 244] that had been made in 1936. From this we learn that his Hebrew name was: יעקב בר יקותיאל, i.e. “Jacob son of Jekutiel”. Jekutiel was the Hebrew name of his father, Süßmann Sommer; see below. The tombstone of Koppel Sommer is pictured on the right.



Heinebach Group

The Maternal Ancestors of Julie Sommer

The ancestors of Sarah Katzenstein (211 • 1), the mother of Julie Sommer, are discussed in the chapter “Common Ancestors”.

Paternal Grandparents of Julie Sommer

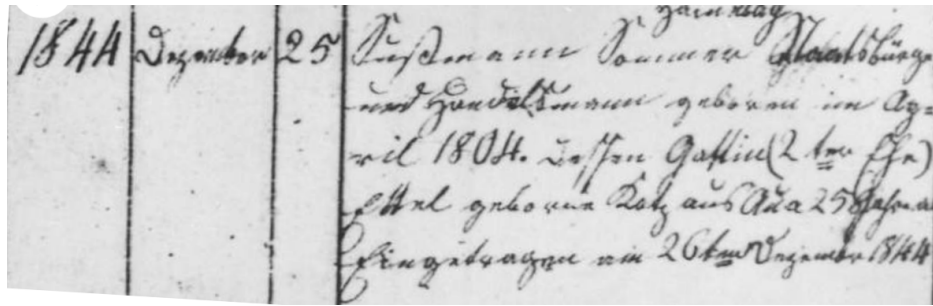
The Parents of Koppel Sommer

We know from the BD of Koppel Sommer, shown above, that he was the offspring of the second marriage of Süssmann Sommer and that his mother was Ettel Katz. Thanks once again to Meta Miller [MM] we have a picture of this couple which I estimate dates from ca. 1865:



From the MD we learn that Ettel Katz was 25 years old when she married, which implies that she was born ca. 1819. It also states that she was from Aua (about 23 km SW of Heinebach); that Ettel was born there appears to be confirmed by further information to be discussed below in connection with her parents. I could not find the DD of Ettel Katz, nor is she on the list of people buried in Binsföth. The archivists who wrote [BIN, 215] were also unable to discover when she passed away (a similar “disappearance”, is noted in connection with Jakob Herz in the chapter “The Haiger Group”).

Heinebach Group



1844.12.25: MD Ettel Katz and Süßmann Sommer, first part

On this MD Süßmann Sommer is stated to have been born in April, 1804. On the MD for his first marriage, dated July 22, 1834, his age is given as 30, which again places his year of birth in 1804. He passed away on September 11, 1873 and according to it he was “72 years, 4½ years old”. This would put his date of birth in May, 1801, three years earlier than on the MD which is from almost thirty years earlier. He was from Heinebach and from the second part of the MD, shown below with the discussion of the grandparents of Koppel Sommer, Süßmann's parents were living in Heinebach. We can thus presume that he was born there.

More, and sometimes different information, is given in the text of [BIN, 215] in connection with the tombstone of Süßmann Sommer. The inscription itself states that Süßmann's Judeo-German name was “Jekutiel”, which confirms what we learned from the inscription on the tombstone of Koppel Sommer. My guess is that “Jekutiel” is a dialectical version of the name of the prophet Ezekiel.

Other information was obtained in part from a marriage and tax document and also from an article, cited in [BIN, 215] which no longer seems to be available. The following is a summary:

Ettel was “22 years, 5 months and 24 days”[!] old at the time of the marriage. [This would place her birthdate in March, 1822, some three years later than the ca. 1819 suggested by the MD.]

Ettel Katz was born in Aua and was a cousin of Süßmann Sommer. Her mother Gietel Wallach was a sister of Süßmann Sommer's mother Jüdel Wallach.

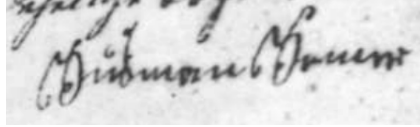
I note (see below with the parents of the couple) in connection with this last bit of information that both Jüdel Wallach and Gietel Wallach were from Raboldshausen. The latter town is only 3 km from Aua. The brothers of Ettel Katz were born in Raboldshausen, before the family moved to Aua in 1813. We can thus suppose that the Katz family and Wallach family knew each other quite well and this may explain how it came that Ethel Katz married Susmann. Presently both Aua and Raboldshausen are constituent parts of the community of Neuenstein.

Ettel Katz (211 • 21) ca. 1819?, 1822.03?, Aua? -- * [MD].

Susmann Jekutiel Sommer (211 • 22) 1804.04?, 1801.05?, Heinebach -- 1873.09.11, Heinebach [MD, DD].

Heinebach Group

Susmann Sommer must have been an officer president of the synagogue / Jewish community, because his signature appears, along with that of a city official, on several documents:



1839.06.12: signature Susmann Sommer on a MD

second marriage of Susmann Sommer: 1844.09.04, Heinebach, with Ettel Katz [MD].

N.B. Unless another symbol is added, the following information concerning the two marriages of Susmann Sommer and the children of these marriages is taken from [KLE-2].

children of Ettel Katz and Susmann Sommer:

1. **Giedschen Sommer** 1845.02.08, Heinebach -- 1845.07.19, Heinebach.
2. **Joseph Sommer** 1846.05.09, Heinebach -- *.
3. **Ellen Sommer** 1848.01.24, Heinebach -- *.
4. **Koppel Sommer** (211 • 2) 1850.03.19, Heinebach -- 1935.02.19, Heinebach [BD, MD, DD, P]; see above.
5. **Lea Sommer** 1851.11.09, Heinebach -- *.
6. **Betti Pesschen Sommer** 1853.09.23, Heinebach -- *. Raboldshausen.
7. **Sargen Sommer** 1856.05.24, Heinebach -- * [BD].

first marriage of Susmann Sommer: 1834.07.22, with Malchen Mansbach (ca. 1813, Maden -- 1843.01.28, Heinebach) in Gudensberg.

children:

1. **Bertha Breine Sommer** 1835.08.26, Heinebach -- *.
2. **Merle Sommer** 1837.12.17, Heinebach -- *.
3. **Jittel Sommer** 1839.12.08, Heinebach -- *.
4. **Roeschen Sommer** 1842.02.09, Heinebach -- *.

The Grave of Susmann Sommer

N.B. As noted above, neither I nor the archivists who did the research for the cemetery at Binsförth were able to find information about the death of Ettel Katz.

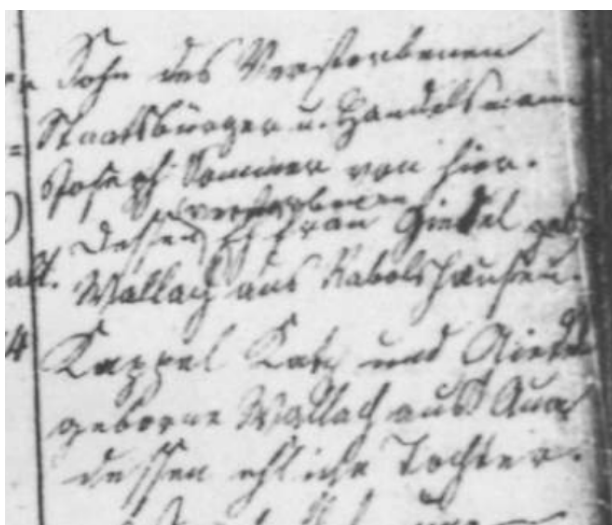
Heinebach Group

The following is a photograph of the German side of his tombstone that we took on our visit in 2010. The Hebrew side reads יקותיאל המכונה זוסמאן זאמער היינבך, i.e. “Jekutiel, called [in German] Susmann Sommer, Heinebach”.



Paternal Great-Grandparents of Julie Sommer

The following is the part of the MD of Ettel Katz and Susmann Sommer that gives the names of their parents:



1844.12.25: MD Ettel Katz and Süßmann Sommer, second part

Heinebach Group

The Parents of Ethel Katz

On the above MD the name of Ettel Katz's father is stated to be Koppel Katz. The family name of her mother is Wallach, but it is the given name that is not clear. If we compare the first letter of her name with the "A" in "Aua" we see that they are not the same. The end of the name is "[d?]l". So my guess is that the name is "Giedel", even though the first letter does not look like the letter "G", apparently lower case, in "Gattin" (spouse) which appears in the first part of the MD. That "Giedel" is the correct reading is supported by what we read concerning Ettel's brothers (below). It is also not clear to me whether the statement "from Aua" after the name of the mother applies to just her or to both parents. I suspect that it is the latter as the MD states that Ettel was from Aua. Again this is supported by the information concerning the brothers.

While looking through the list of people named Katz in [LAGIS] I came across information concerning three men, David Katz, Abraham Katz and Schafte Katz, who were almost certainly brothers of Ettel Katz. The three are buried in the Oberaula, not in Binsförfth. In all three of the documents concerning these men the name of the father is given as Koppel Katz. Further we learn that the family had left Raboldshausen for Aua in 1813. This information coincides with what we learned above from the MD of Ettel Katz and Susmann Sommer.

There is a difference, however, in the name of the mother of Ettel Katz. On the documentation concerning the three sons the name of the mother is Giedel Leiser, where as on the MD of Ettel Katz and Susmann Sommer the name of the mother is Gietel Wallach. The difference between the two names is explainable by the "name" Leiser. This must have been her father's name and she would have been referred to as Geidel [daughter of] Leiser before the adoption of civil family names came into effect.

Giedel Wallach *Leiser* (211 • 211) *, Raboldshausen? -- b. 1843?, lived in Aua.

Koppel Katz (211 • 212) *, Nesselröden? -- lived in Aua.

children:

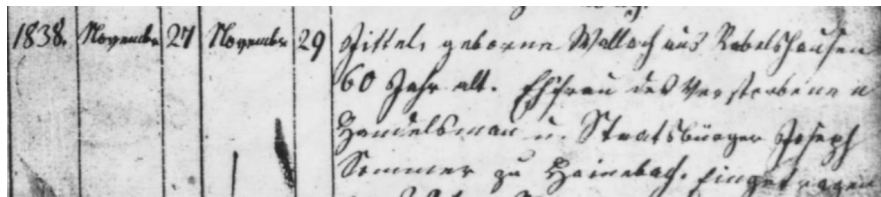
1. **David Katz** ca. 1811, Raboldshausen -- 1902.07.12, Ottrau [Oberaula, 194].
He married Reischen Oppenheim; no children.
2. **Abraham Katz** ca. 1812, Raboldshausen -- 1867.01.25, Raboldshausen? [Oberaula, 106].
He married Fradchen Ballin; they had one daughter.
3. **Schafte Katz** 1816.11.04, Raboldshausen -- 1899.01.13, Aua. [Oberaula, 201]
He married Jettchen Goldstein; they had four children.
4. **Ettel Katz** (211 • 21) ca. 1819, 1822.03?, Aua? -- *; see above.

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The Parents of Susmann Sommer

On the above MD of Ettel Katz and Susmann Sommer the names of the latter's parents are stated to be, "the citizen (*Staatsburger*) and merchant Joseph Sommer, and his deceased wife Jüdel".

According to the information concerning the gravestone of Joseph Sommer [BIN, 106] the name of his wife was Jüdel/Jittel Wallach, who passed away on November 11, 1838. This enables us to find her DD:



1838.11.27: DD Jüdel Wallach

Further, from documents dealing with the ownership of the family house -- see below -- we learn that Jüdl Wallach's family name, before she adopted the family name Wallach, was Jüdl Löser.

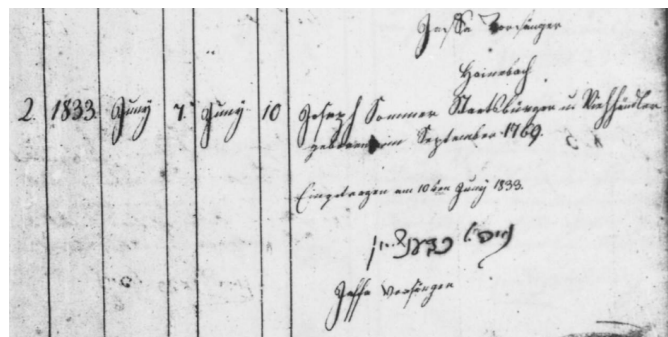
Jüdel Wallach *Jittel Löser* (2 1 1 • 2 2 1) ca. 1778, Raboldshausen--1838.11.27, Heinebach [DD; BIN, 106].

Her tombstone has either disappeared or can not be identified.

The above information lends weight to the text that I summarized above in connection with Ettel Katz and Süssman Sommer [Bin, 215] to the effect that the mother of Ettel Katz was Gietel Wallach, the sister of Süssman Sommer's mother Jüdl Wallach.

Joseph Sommer *Meyer* (2 1 1 • 2 2 2) 1769.09, Heinebach--1833.06.07, Heinebach [DD; BIN, 106; HÄDE, 40].

His DD describes him as a "citizen and cattle dealer". He is listed as Joseph Sommer as of 1839.



1833.06.07: DD Joseph Sommer

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marriage: before ca. 1798 (before the birth of Moses Sommer).

children:

1. **Moses Sommer** ca. 1798, Heinebach -- 1873.03.19, Baumbach.
He married Sarah Abt; they had a son Hirsch Sommer, who married his first cousin Jettsche Sommer, a daughter of Susmann Sommer.
2. **Susmann Sommer** (211 • 22) 1804.04, 1801.05?, Heinebach -- 1873.09.11, Heinebach; see above.
3. **Abraham Sommer** 1806.12.02, Heinebach -- 1859.10.10, Heinebach.
He married Zerle Levi; they had ten children.
4. **Baruch Sommer** ca. 1811, Heinebach -- 1864.07.05, Heinebach.
He married Sara Mansbach who was born in Maden ca. 1816; they had seven children. As noted above, the first wife of Susmann Sommer was Malchen Mansbach who was born ca. 1813 in Maden, so it is not unlikely that they were sisters. If this were the case we would have two brothers marrying two sisters; see "Common Ancestors" where we have a similar situation.
5. **Itzig Sommer** ca. 1816, Heinebach -- *
He married Marianne Abt; they had seven children. I do not know if Marianne Abt was related to Sarah Abt, the wife of Moses Sommer.

The Grave of Joseph Sommer

The following is a photograph of the front (Hebrew) side of his tombstone [BIN, 196]; there apparently was no inscription in German on the other side. of the tombstone.



We read: יוסף ב'מ' מה"ב שמו... i.e. his name [was] Joseph son of M from Heinebach".

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See below with his father for the interpretation of who “M” was.

Earlier Ancestors of Julie Sommer The Father of Gietel Wallach and Jüdel Wallach

We saw above that Gietel Wallach was referred to as Giedel Leiser in the documents related to her three sons and I concluded that Leiser was thus her father's name. Since Jüdel and Gietel are reported to have been sisters, Leiser was also the father of Jüdel.

Leiser (211 • 211 • 2 / 211 • 221) lived in Raboldshausen.

children:

1. **Giedel Wallach** *Leiser* (211 • 211) *, Raboldshausen? -- b. 1843?, lived in Aua; see above.
 2. **Jüdel Wallach** *Leiser* (211 • 221) ca. 1778, Raboldshausen -- 1838.11.27, Heinebach; see above.
-

Ancestors of Joseph Sommer

We saw that on the tombstone of Joseph Sommer he was identified as שמו... יוסף... ב'מ' מה"ב, i.e. his name [was] Joseph son of M from Heinebach”. The documentation [BIN, 106; also HÄDE, 40] that goes with the tombstone says that before Joseph Sommer adopted the family name Sommer he was referred to as Joseph Meyer. There is no indication as to how the archivists knew this, but I suspect that it was based on a change of name list.

According to the usual Jewish method of naming -- before civil names were introduced -- Joseph would have been his given name and Meyer the name of his father. Thus the archivists concluded that “M” stands for the first initial of “Meyer” and thus that Joseph Sommer was the son of Meyer Susmann from Heinebach. Meyer Susmann and other early ancestors are discussed in [HÄDE, 39, 17; KLE-2, 1] and I will summarize what their investigations showed:

In 1716 there is a record of a Levi Isaak in Heinebach and in 1729 a Court Jew (*Schutzjude*) named Susmann Isaak is recorded as having changed foreign money for the church. We also learn that the Susmann Isaak had six children. Again, because of the Jewish method of referring to children, the assumption is that Levi and Susmann were sons of a person named Isaak.

We also learn -- see below under houses -- that both Susmann Issak and Meyer Susmann lived in the same house and that later on Joseph Meyer / Joseph Sommer inherited the house. This a further indication of the relationship between the three.

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Unfortunately we do not have the names of the wives of Susmann Issak and Meyer Susmann.

The Father of Joseph Sommer

Meyer Susmann (211 • 212 • 2) ca. 1740?, Heinebach -- b. 1828, Heinebach.

The DD for Heinebach start in 1828 so we can suppose that he passed away before that date.

The Father of Meyer Susmann

Susmann Isaak (211 • 212 • 22) ca. 1710?, * -- *, Heinebach.

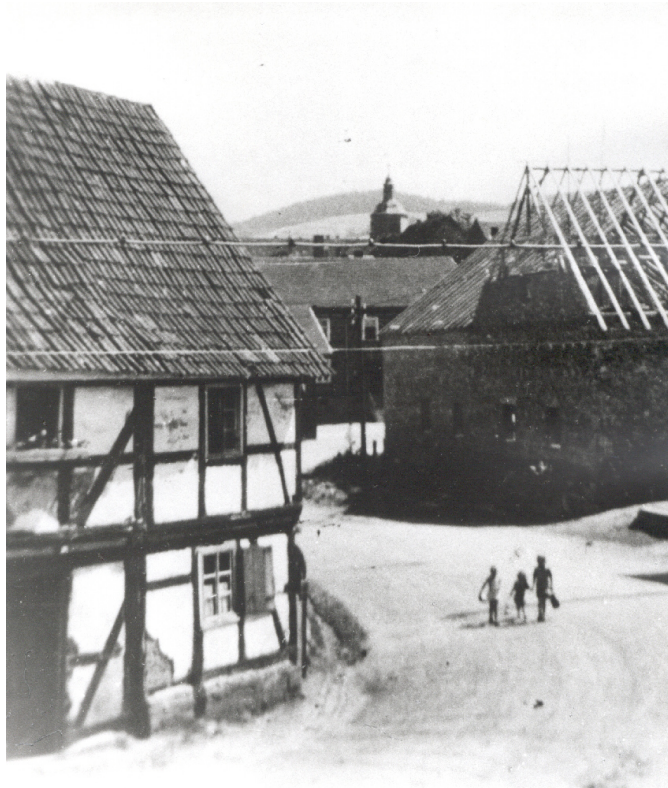
A Court Jew (*Schutzjude*). He had at least six children.

The Father Susmann Isaak

Issak? (211 • 212 • 222) last quarter of 17th century?.

Children: Susmann Isaak and Levi Isaak.

The Sommer Houses



The “Koppelsche Haus”

From at least 1750 Susmann Isaak and Meyer Susmann lived in a house that they

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owned at Hof Straße 9. Afterwards Joseph Sommer, the son of Meyer lived with his family in the same house. In 1834, after Joseph had passed away, the house was owned by his wife Jüdel Wallach (still known as Jüdel Löser) who lived there with four of her sons. Nothing is stated about the rest of the nineteenth century, but in 1900 the butcher Moses Sommer, a grandson of Jüdel Wallach and Joseph Sommer, lived there with his family.

From 1834 on Susmann Sommer lived at 66 Nürnberger Landstraße. After he passed away in 1873 the house was inhabited by his son Koppel Sommer (211 • 2) who was referred to as “Sußmanns Koppel”. In the tradition of many small towns (see “Rechels Mehle” in the chapter “The Hilchenbach Group”) the name “Koppelsche Haus” was attached to the residence.

When the house was torn down in 1954 a Torah scroll was found inside. It is believed that it was hidden there by Abraham Sommer (child 4 of Koppel Sommer, referred to as Abraham II in [HÄDE]) at the time of the Nazi persecutions; I would guess that it was around the time of Krystal Nacht.
