

The Daniel Braunschweiger family

Schlossstr. 1 (New building 1994 / Schlecker shop until June 2012)

The salesman Daniel Braunschweiger (born July 1, 1862) came from Steinbach. About 1890, when the Jewish community in Steinbach was at its end, Daniel moved to Burghaun with his parents Anschel Braunschweiger (1832-1906) and Sarchen née Mansbach (1836-1896). They settled in the house in Schlossstraße No. 1.

On June 2, 1890 in Burghaun Daniel Braunschweiger married Pauline Stern (born March 21, 1867), called Paula, from Netra near Eschwege. The couple had four children:

Jakob, born March 15, 1891

Frieda, born October 29, 1892

Julius, born August 22, 1895

Josef, born June 11, 1900

It was told that the oldest son *Jakob* settled in Berlin, probably he was killed in the First World War. Nobody knows anything more.

Frieda married the salesman Jakob Wallach in Breitenbach at the Herzberg. Later on she separated from her husband and in 1935 she returned to her father in Burghaun with her daughter Ruth (born 1923). The exact time when Frieda and Ruth left Burghaun is not known. The fact is that Ruth still visited the Jewish school (Bezirksschule, installed by the Nazis) in Burghaun in September 1937. Some time later mother and daughter moved to Frankfurt / Main, where Ruth's father had settled as well. From their homes Frieda and Ruth and Jakob Wallach were deported to the ghetto Minsk / Belarus on November 11, 1941. There all of them died.

Julius was the only one who continued living in his parents' house in Burghaun with his own family until 1934. In 1924 he had married Selma Stern from Frankershausen near Eschwege. The couple had three children: Paula (born 1926), Alfred (born 1928) and Reni (born 1936). In the last years in Burghaun they lived in their house in Ringstraße 14. A "Kindertransport" (safe the children - transport) to England saved Paula's and Reni's life. But the parents Julius and Selma together with the 13-year-old Alfred were deported to Riga ghetto on December 8, 1941. While Alfred survived several concentration camps his parents were killed by the Nazis in 1943. On Sept. 27, 2011 two "Stolpersteine" were set into the pavement in front of their former home.

Josef married Cilli Loewenthal in Hoesbach/Unterfranken (Bavaria). In 1938 he moved with his family to Hebelstrasse in Frankfurt/Main. From here the couple was deported on November 11, 1941 to Minsk where both perished. Most likely with one of the Childrens' Transports the twelve and nine year old daughters escaped to England.

Daniel Braunschweiger's wife Paula passed away on May 7, 1924, and was buried at Burghaun's Jewish cemetery. The inscription on her tombstone reads:

"Here rests a chaste and pious woman whose life was full of the fear of God and purity. It was her whole striving to please God and her fellow human beings. Thus, Paula, wife of Daniel, graced her husband and her children."

1934 Daniel Braunschweiger sold his house. Supposedly he did a swap with Jakob Altstadt the owner of the house at Burgstrasse 2. At first the widower did not live there since he obviously leased it out, and with the Hucke family at Burgstrasse 1 he rent an apartment where his daughter Frieda and his granddaughter Ruth moved in also. However, later on he lived for some time at Burgstrasse 2 in a "small pad" all by himself. In the course of the 1938 November Pogrom the seventy-six year old man was arrested. Due to his old age he was not deported to Buchenwald but released on the very same evening. Shortly afterwards he fled to Frankfurt/Main, where he took up his last residence at the Jewish home for senior citizens at Hans Handwerkstrasse 30. From there he was transported to Theresienstadt on August 18, 1942. Only a few months later the lonely man passed away on January 20, 1943 as a result of the life-threatening conditions inside the Ghetto.

Translation (from "Josef married Cilly ...") into English: Martin H. Siebert