



Memorial "Misrach" from Dani Karavan, Neupfarrplatz

[1] [2] THE GOTHIC SYNAGOGUE AND MEMORIAL "MISRACH"

NEUPFARRPLATZ

The area of today's Neupfarrplatz (New Parish Square) pretty much corresponds to the Jewish quarters of the Middle Ages documented for the first time in the year 1020 - First traces of Jewish population in Regensburg in 981. Here stood the synagogue, the mikveh, the highly acclaimed yeshiva (Talmud Torah school), the rabbinical court, the Jewish hospital, the butcher's shop, the communal fountain, the house used for weddings, the "Judenstadel" - a big warehouse storing goods for the long-distance trade of the merchants, and finally, about 40 large residential buildings in which about 500 members of the Jewish community lived, plus 80 students of the yeshiva.

After the death of the emperor Maximilian I., the city council voted to drive out the Jewish community on February 21, 1519. For the prevention of their return, both the synagogue, and all other official buildings, including almost all the large residential buildings, were destroyed.

The months between the summer of 1995 and early 1997 saw large-scale archaeological excavations in the whole area – and many almost perfectly preserved basements, in both the Romanesque and Gothic style, were dug out and meticulously documented. The most spectacular find was the complete layout of the synagogue destroyed in 1519.

In 2004 the renowned Israeli sculptor Dani Karavan inaugurated the memorial to commemorate the synagogue and its history. "A place for lingering and relaxing, a place for chatting, singing, reciting poems or meditating. Children will be welcome to play on the walls" – these were the hopes stated by Dani Karavan. The memorial lives up to those expectations, as it can be observed daily on site.

[3] DOCUMENT NEUPFARRPLATZ

NEUPFARRPLATZ

The archaeological excavations on this square, lasting nearly three years - which in the summer of 1995 began as a routine measure, on the 3,000 square metres of the former medieval Jewish quarters destroyed in 1519 - resulted in absolutely unexpected findings: not only were the foundations of the synagogue unearthed, but also the mostly well-preserved vaulted basements of residential buildings, vaulted in Romanesque or Gothic style. In addition, a little bronze god-like statue dating back to the times of the Roman fortress Castra Regina was found, followed by a rare depiction of the High Priest Aaron from the 15th century in the form of a bronze figure, and a hidden treasure of 624 gold coins that had been buried in two clay pots in one of the basements around the year 1388. Last, but not least, the signet ring of Regensburg's Jewish community was found bearing the symbols of a star and crescent moon.

A part of these findings can be seen today in three of these basements that have been converted into a museum and are accessible by means of a staircase on the square built in an unmistakably contemporary design. A number of things can be seen and studied in the "document Neupfarrplatz" below the square: first, the basements themselves, second, various foundations showing walls and corners of Roman army barracks, third, a major section of the ring-shaped air-raid shelter which the Nazi regime had installed here shortly before WWII. There is also an auditorium in which one can watch a video animation intended to make the everyday life of Jewish citizens come alive in medieval Regensburg. In the pavement of the square, one finds a window made of shatter-proof glass which brings daylight into the basement with the auditorium and spans an imaginary path between yesterday and today.

[4] STUMBLING STONES LILIENFELD

NEUPFARRPLATZ 12, ECKE PFARRERGASSE

Where today you can see a drugstore, a shoe store had been standing here for several decades. For more than thirty years, it was owned and run by Josef Lilienfeld, a successful and well-established businessman in town, and an elected official within the Chamber of Commerce.

All of that came to a rapid end after the Nazi party had come to power. First of all, within the spirit of enforced conformity ("Gleichschaltung") new officials had to be elected in all chambers of commerce – and all Jewish officials were struck from the list of candidates; hence, in Regensburg, in Neumarkt and in Cham the chambers of commercewere made "free of Jews" ("judenfrei) as the Nazis so proudly proclaimed.

Next followed the nationwide Nazi boycott of Jewish shops and businesses, followed by various laws, such as the "Nuremberg Laws" ("Nürnberger Gesetze") affecting the "Ordinance on the Exclusion of Jews from the German Economy", the "Ordinance on the Use of Jewish Property" and the "Ordinance on the Registration of Jewish Property". Before long, 113 businesses of Jewish owners were "aryanized" in Regensburg. For the new, and undoubtedly, pro-Nazi owners it meant windfall profits, for the former owners, it spell expropriation, humiliation, and in the end, quite often, suffering a violent death.

The five stumbling stones here illustrate what happened to the Lilienfelds and Herrschers: Erich Herrscher (managing Director of the Lilienfeld shoe store) and his wife Alma (née Abraham), as well as the young son of the Lilienfelds (born 1905) were deported to Piaski during the first deportation from Regensburg on April 2, 1942. Paul's mother, Ida Lilienfeld (née Grünhut), was deported to Auschwitz three months later, her husband Josef Lilienfeld died on September 7, 1942, that is two weeks before he was also scheduled for deportation.

[5] STUMBLING STONES "JUDENHAUS"

GESANDTENSTRASSE 10 (OPPOSITE THE TOWER OF TRINITY CHURCH)

In June 2007, these eleven brass stones were laid, they were the very first stumbling stones installed in Regensburg. The high number was necessary because the Nazi town administration had declared this house a "Jews' House" (Judenhaus) in 1938. The new Nazi laws forced all Jews to sell their real estate to "Aryans", and thus, all those who had lost their homes or houses, now had to move to these new quarters from where many were deported. Professor Victor Klemperer, who wrote his famous diary during the Nazi era, gave an account of the Dresden Judenhaus where he was forced to live: "The Cohns, the Stühlers, and us. We share a bathroom and a toilet. The kitchen we share with the Stühlers, halfway divided – one water faucet for all three (families). It is almost like living in barracks, one stumbles across the other, chaos." Eleven stones, eleven fates, six families.

[6] THE BAROQUE SYNAGOGUE AND RABBI ISAAK ALEXANDER

HINTER DER GRIEB 5

If it were not for the stone tablet on the wall of the stately home, on the street called Hinter der Grieb 5, hardly anybody would know what was once found here: "This late Gothic home housed a synagogue in the 18th century" Probably as early as 1766, Iszaak Alexander came to Regensburg, and became the rabbi of the small Jewish community, which once again had attempted to establish in Regensburg. The reason being that the Imperial Diet ("Reichstag") regularly convened in the free imperial city. Several of the ambassadors and princes asked for an exemption for bringing their "Hoffaktoren" (the so-called "court Jews"), and "Schutzjuden" (Jews given protection by either the Emperor, or the Prince Elector of Saxony, or the Reichserbmarschall von Pappenheim), and also their "Geleitjuden" (Jews given temporary protection by other nobility) with them to the sessions of the Diet. Even though all Jews had been banned from Regensburg since 1519, a small number of them was present as "Schutzjuden" at the Diets of 1532, 1541 and 1546, as well as during all other sessions to follow. The titles of the writings, which the early "philosopher of the Enlightenment" Rabbi Alexander wrote nearly, sound like a present-day commentary on self-conceit and prejudice. Three are here quoted: "Von dem Daseyn Gottes die selbst redende Vernunft" (From the Existence of God to natural Reason, 1775), "Wahrheiten zur göttlichen Weisheit" (Truths Concerning God's Wisdom, 1779), and finally "Abhandlung von der Freiheit des Menschen" (Treatise on the Liberty of Man, 1789).

[7] SYNAGOGUE 1841 TO 1907

UNTERE BACHGASSE 3/5

When seeing this low-rise building, nothing would let you anticipate that here once – and for centuries – stood the town's typical big patrician mansion with an imposing tower and an elegant private chapel. Here in the "Wollerhaus" three generations of Regensburg Jews convened in their synagogue - after they had left the older synagogue – Hinter der Grieb 5- and had inaugurated this new one in 1841. The main prayer hall offering fifty seats for men, plus a separate balcony for the women, was located in the tower; in the adjoining house on Untere Bachgasse 3, in the so-called "Teysterhaus". You would have found schoolrooms for pupils, an apartment for their teacher, the mikveh and other rooms. Since the Jewish community grew rather rapidly, soon the number of seats both for men and women did not suffice any longer. In 1867 both the synagogue and the balcony for women were expanded.

The main problem, however, was the brook, the Vitusbach, still running through the alley. The damp had invaded the walls of the building. Troubles began in 1888: a candleholder fell off the wall, the rabbi lamented about the wet walls, and was afraid that the house would succumb to the marsh. A large section of the external plaster came off the facade and injured a passer-by, during the service in 1907 parts of the plastering fell off the women's balcony and right into the rows of the prayer room where. Whereupon, in the same year the whole building was officially declared "dilapidated" by the building authorities.

The Jewish community first rented rooms, and later built a new synagogue, but the building kept on deteriorating - until only massive wooden beams, which were spanned across the alley, prevented its collapse. In the autumn of 1938, the new owner started demolishing the whole complex. The only thing remaining was the Romanesque apse of an earlier chapel in the backyard. In 1946, this commonplace low-rise building was erected that we can see here today.



Stumbling stone, Haidplatz 7

[8]STUMBLING STONES ROSENKRANZ

AM WATMARKT 4, NEXT TO TOWER "DAMPFNUDEL-ULI"

These two "Stumbling Stones" commemorate Mathilde Rosenkranz, née Abramovic, and her husband Fischel Rosenkranz. Both originally came from Poland and moved to Regensburg in 1910, they had resided at the Watmarkt since 1920. Mrs. Rosenkranz ran a small business, her husband traded with various raw products selling them to other companies – which clearly labelled them as 'Enemies of the People' ("Volksfeinde"), a term used in Nazi jargon. The first list of Jewish businesses in Regensburg to be boycotted was published in a NSDAP magazine from 1935: "Whoever buys from a Jew, is a traitor to his own people!" As noted on the brass stones, both Rosenkranzes were arrested and locked up in the local prison called "Augustenburg" during the pogrom night of November 9, 1938. The text "interned in 1940 in the forced-labour camp Sosnowitz / murdered" means that the Rosenkranzes were sent to the labour camp for Jews in the town of Sosnowitz/Schrodula, which was one of more than 170 of such camps run by the "Organisation Schmelt". Albrecht Schmelt was the SS officer commissioned by Heinrich Himmler as "Special Envoy of the Reichsführer's SS for labour camps for People of Alien Ethnicity in Upper Silesia" in occupied Poland. It is estimated that about 200,000 people lost their lives in these camps that were designed for carrying out "extermination by labour", and the dividing line to the extermination camps with their systematic mass murder was very thin, even fluent. Their daily routines encompassed senseless chores, continuous degradation and humiliation, malnutrition, even starvation, and ultimately, led to their demise which went hand in hand with plain murder. When the Rosenkranzes "relocated" to Sosnowitz on November 18, 1940, they were 75 and 73 years of age. Without a doubt, their certain death was imminent.

Tombstone, Vor der Grieb



[9] EMILIE UND OSKAR SCHINDLER: "RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS"

AM WATMARKT 5

The fact that Oskar Schindler and his wife Emilie lived in Regensburg after the end of the war is not common knowledge. However, thanks to Steven Spielberg's film "Schindler's List", their name is well known all over the world. The plaque, which you can see on the house wall on Watmarkt 5 where they resided, primarily was mounted here because of the immense popularity of the film. Ever since then, it has been reminding all passers-by that the Schindlers saved more than 1,200 Jews from certain death.

Both Schindlers were honoured with the title "Righteous Among the Nations" for this act of humanity - Oskar Schindler in 1962, his wife Emilie in 1994. This honour is the highest one bestowed to a person by the State of Israel; it was granted for the first time in the year 1953. In early 2019, the list of recipients reached a total number of 27,362 individuals coming from 51 countries - among them were 627 Germans and 110 Austrians. Immediately after the end of the war, the two Schindlers came to Regensburg, arriving in May 1945. In November 1945 they moved into an apartment here on Watmarkt 5 where they stayed until September 1946. After that they moved to another apartment on a street named Alte Nürnbergstraße 25. From there, they emigrated to Argentina in the winter of 1949.

[10] JEWISH TOMBSTONES

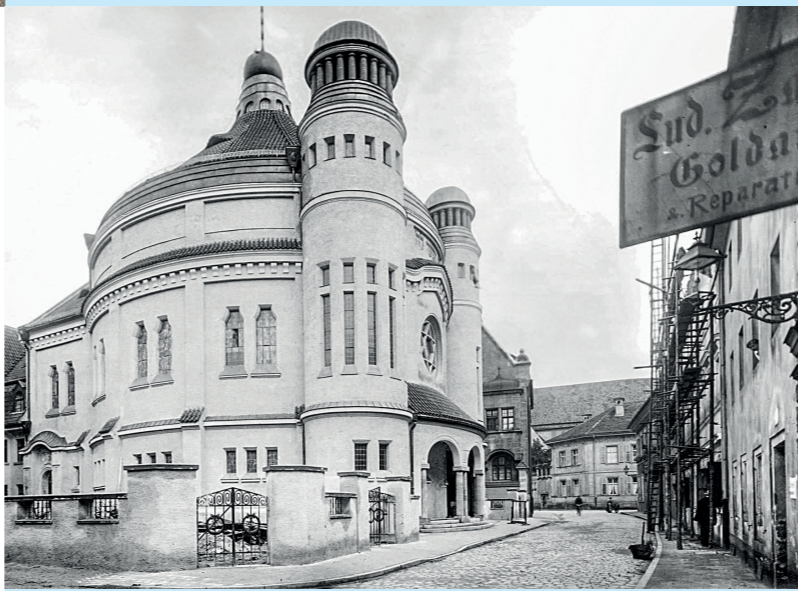
PASSAGEWAY BETWEEN THE OLD CITY HALL (ALTE RATHAUS) AND THE STREET CALLED ROTER HERZFLECK

The spacious lot for their graveyard "der gute Ort" (the good place- which is the Jiddish word for graveyard), located near the former St. Peter's Gate (Peterstor, north of the central station), was bought by the Jewish community in 1210. For centuries, Jewish travellers from all over Western and Eastern Europe came to visit the graves of famous and revered Jewish scholars of Regensburg's well-known yeshiva (Talmud Torah School.). In the year 1519 "der gute Ort" was destroyed and only very few of these stones have been preserved until today – about 130 gravestones and stone fragments, plus a few inscriptions copied by early historians and scholars. Most of these gravestones were desecrated and alienated by misusing them as building material, especially, when erecting today's "Neupfarrkirche" (New Parish Church). Some of the stones ended up in nearby towns like Kelheim, Straubing, Cham and other places. Just like in Regensburg, they were often displayed in house walls facing the street, as a kind of trophy to triumphantly remind people of the unmissable "expulsion" of the Jewish population. One example of this display can be seen right next to the Old City Hall, at the end of the covered passageway, and to the right of the main staircase which is leading up to its lavishly sculpted portal. On the building on the right you will see an oriel – and on the bottom stone slab you can easily detect the gravestone fragment with Hebrew inscription. The closing phrase inscribed says: "May her soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life, in the Garden of Eden! Amen." - which clearly shows that this was the gravestone of a woman whose name and year of death are not visible any longer, as they are hidden under the protruding stone enforcement.

[11] MIKVEH

AN DER HOLZLÄNDE 5

An indispensable part of every Jewish community is the "mikveh" (German Jews usually spell it Mikwe), which is a bath for dipping. The basin of the mikveh must contain "natural, live water", and the bathing in this water serves the purpose of a ritual cleansing and immersion in Judaism. Such ritual cleansing applies both to persons and objects alike; it is also used in the process of preparing meals. Women must go to the mikveh after each monthly period, also before their wedding, and after giving birth. Men, as well, do use the mikveh: before their wedding ceremony, but also to cleanse themselves from impurity before a ritual, and before officially converting to Judaism. Kitchen utensils which are considered as unclean, especially, if they were in contact with both milk and meat, must be immersed in the mikveh's waters, and in this way purified. The mikveh right by the Danube on Holzländerstraße is located within a private residence going far back to the Middle Ages. The mikveh, however, was only erected here in 1773 and was already abandoned as early as 1837, when building activities in the neighbourhood had lowered the groundwater level to such a degree that made bathing a health hazard. The mikveh was backfilled, and it was only excavated once again by the archaeologists in the 1990s, with the consent and active support of the current homeowners.



Synagogue 1912-1938, Am Brixener Hof 2

[12] INFO-STELES COLOSSEUM

STADTAMHOF

Fifty metres north, after crossing the Stone Bridge, you can see a stone monument on a little square, a few metres further, there are two man-sized steles. All three of them give information about the outpost of the concentration camp Flossenbürg (one hour north from here), which was established in the dance hall of a big inn on March 1945, after a major air-raid on the train station. (The word COLOSSEUM in capital letters attached to one of the buildings tells you in which building the inn was). 450 prisoners had to clear away the debris and take care of the undetonated bombs and fix the tracks. The men came from seventeen countries, the biggest numbers from Poland and Russia, but also quite a few from Belgium, France, and Germany, about every third person was Jewish. Conditions both in the hall and by the tracks were sheer horror, about 45 prisoners died within a few weeks. The end of the camp came on April 23, 1945, when the SS guards marched all the surviving prisoners across the Stone Bridge. After that, three arches of the bridge were blown up, so that the approaching US troops would not be able to readily cross the Danube. The prisoners were forced on a death march towards Austria. When they were liberated by US troops on May 2nd, there were not even 50 of the original 450 prisoners alive. The steles have been standing here since 2016 and the stone monument goes back to 1994. Under the caption "never again" in Hebrew letters there is some general information about the Colosseum camp, plus the opening paragraph of the postwar German constitution (Grundgesetz): "The dignity of man is inviolable."



Aerial perspective of the new Synagogue opened in 2019

[13] STUMBLING STONE FIRNBACHER

PROSKETRASSE 5

In the year 1900, the brothers Leopold and Abraham Firnbacher moved from Franconia to Regensburg. They traded with cattle, and quite successfully so, imported cows and oxen from Tyrol, from Holland, from Belgium, bought and sold large numbers of slaughter cattle. Soon they acquired a restaurant, Leopold bought a fine mansion in the city, and Abraham a charming villa in Proskestraße 5.

Then came the Nazis, which in the long run meant either emigration or extermination. In November 1936, Jewish cattle traders were barred from access to the city's abattoir. In December 1936, the "Order regulating the usage of Jewish assets" was passed becoming the rulebook which soon resulted in 113 Jewish businesses to be "aryanized" in Regensburg. This included the Firnbacher family as well. They lost the cattle trading firm, their restaurant, and their homes. Especially the latter quickly became the centre of a showdown between several prospective buyers, amongst whom was the Chamber of Commerce, that opened a big battle on who was the most enthusiastic Nazi and should therefore rake in the prize. One of these self-proclaimed "decent and honest National Socialists" won – and all Firnbachers lost. The money from the forced sales were frozen in the bank, there were enormous sums to be paid for the "Jewish property levy" ("Judenvermögensabgabe"), the Reich Flight Tax ("Reichsfluchtsteuer"), and the sales proceeds were kept in blocked accounts of the Reich and were irremovable from Germany. Abraham Firnbacher, the last resident of the villa in Proskestraße 5, was forced to "move" into the Jewish senior citizens' home in Weißenburgstraße from where he was deported to Theresienstadt/Terezin on September 23, 1942, where he died the following year at the age of 77.

[14] THE CATHEDRAL'S "JUDENSAU"

DOMPLATZ 1, SÜDSEITE DES DOMS

On the third (counting from the West) pillar of the south facade of the cathedral, one can detect a late-Gothic stone sculpture which deserves a closer look. It is a specimen of the so-called "Judensau" – or "Jews' sow" – a drastic vilification of Judaism. It is almost a standard feature of many well-known European churches from Gothic times, which can be seen in 48 towns: among them are Cologne, Erfurt, Nuremberg, Colmar, Metz, Basel, Bayreuth, Bad Wimpfen, Magdeburg, Wittenberg, Salzburg, Wien, Xanten und Frankfurt.

The limestone sculpture, made between 1340 and 1380, clearly shows is a female pig or sow, which is being held by one ear by a man wearing a hat, so that the other two men can suckle on the teats of the animal. One of the men has no head anymore, but the other one wears the pointed hat, which Jews had been required to wear during the Middle Ages. The pig is seen as unclean in the Jewish faith and stands for pure blasphemy. The insult of the entire scene was even more severe, as the sculpture was placed right opposite of one of the main gates into the Jewish quarters. It is only since 2005 that one can read a statement by the Regensburg Cathedral Chapter underneath the sculpture. The content of the text is still discussed today.

[15] FORMER GESTAPO QUARTERS

MINORITENWEG 1

This building dates back to 1936-1938, when the NSDAP planned and erected an entire quarter for administrative offices and other authorities for the Nazi apparatus, all in the vicinity of Minoritenweg. Here they established the headquarters for the Gestapo (Secret State Police). The long-stretched "Führerbalkon" (balcony intended for the Führer) along the south facade, and the monumental fresco on the Eastern wing depicting an allegorical figure of "Justicia" express very well the National Socialist taste for totalitarian architecture.

In the pogrom night of November 9, 1938, about seventy Jewish citizens of Regensburg were brought here, and one day later taken to the Dachau concentration camp. All deportations to the town of Piaski, and from there to the extermination camps, were also coordinated in this building. The same went for the dozens and dozens of mock trials against forced labourers – often from foreign countries -, and their Aryan' sweethearts deemed to be committing the crime of "Rassenschande" (shaming the race). Gestapo officials from Regensburg always supervised the execution.

In 1941, several Gestapo officers spent four months checking the files of 2,344 Red Army soldiers who were captured and incarcerated here. 330 of them were stamped as intolerable ("untragbar") and executed in the concentration camp Flossenbürg. On April 23, 1945, the court-martial against the Cathedral preacher Dr. Johann Maier, Josef Zirkl and Michael Lottner also took place here. Today the building houses the Polizeiinspektion Süd (the police station for Regensburg South). On the occasion of the commemoration on 23 April 2020, an information board was placed at the side entrance.

[16] STUMBLING STONES HOLZINGER

MAXIMILIANSTRASSE 16, ECKE KÖNIGSTRASSE

Not far from the new synagogue you will find Maximilianstraße, formerly the fanciest shopping boulevard of Regensburg. Nine stumbling stones have been laid at the corner of Königstraße. The stones commemorate the families Holzinger and Brandis who ran and owned a popular textile store, plus a thriving textile wholesale business in this building, under the name "Weiß und Holzinger". Ottmar Holzinger, just like Josef Lilienfeld, was well-established and well-connected, and highly regarded in business circles, and thus, an elected member of the Chamber of Commerce.

He, too, was struck from the list of candidates when the Nazis forced a new election in 1933. In the pogrom night of November 9, 1938, the next level of escalation was reached, when at two o'clock in the morning a squad of the SS (led by a former custodian in the Holzinger store) raided the family villa, smashed every single window and devastated the entire house, leaving it in shambles. They left behind a scene of destruction, and then dragged Mr. and Mrs. Holzinger into the Gestapo quarters – the Brandis family suffered a similar night of horrors.

"Aryanization" followed, robbing the Brandis and the Holzingers of every-thing: of their real estate, of their businesses, and of their money - which was frozen in special accounts from which they could only withdraw small sums, insufficient for emigration. Having been stripped of all means, Ottmar and Daniela Holzinger were deported to Theresienstadt/Terezin in September 1942 where both perished in 1944, due to the appalling conditions. The sister-in-law, Gisela Holzinger and her daughter Alice, together with her husband Karl Brandis plus their four children were deported to Piaski in April 1942, and most presumably, were gassed in the Sobibór extermination camp.

[17] THE SYNAGOGUE 1912 TO 1938

AM BRIXENER HOF 2

In 1904, the Jewish community (counting 493 members in 1910), bought a lot on Schäffnerstraße. By 1908, a competition of various architects was underway, in which Wilhelm Stiassny, a well-known architect in Vienna, who had already planned and built twelve synagogues, won the first prize. The King of Bavaria's building commission, however, rejected his design in neo-Renaissance style. That was a new chance for the local „stars“ Joseph Koch and Franz Spiegel whose draft in "Moorish style" had lost against Stiassny's drafts. In February 1911, Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria gave his permission for the erection of a synagogue according to Koch's plans: with a main prayer hall, a prayer room for weekdays, a school, a mikveh and rooms for the administration. On August 29, 1912, this building seating 290 men and 180 women was inaugurated. It was a quite modern structure with columns and balconies built in reinforced concrete, with a big round window with the Star of David built into the main facade, with two impressive towers flanking the main portal, and quite an elaborate roof with a monumental cupola, the top of which resembling tent can-vasses. Additionally, there were two staircase towers in front of the main portal, each topped by an elegant monopteros, plus a golden Star of David high above the cupola.

"May the new temple become the steady and safe hub for the cultural life of Regensburg's Israelites for centuries to come, and may a rich life blossom from it ..."- these words spoken by the Lord Mayor Dr. Gessler, did not come true. In the pogrom night of November 9, 1938, the building was intentionally set on fire by Nazi arsonists, just as Gauleiter Wächtler (regional leader within the Nazi regime) had written to Mayor Schottenheim: "I have given orders that tonight the synagogue must be burnt down and has to disappear. No stone shall remain, it shall be reduced to rubble!". The first deportations followed in 1942.

[18] THE NEW SYNAGOGUE OF 2019

AM BRIXENER HOF 2

On February 27, 2019, the three Torah scrolls, in the possession of Regensburg's Jewish Community, were ceremoniously carried over into the Torah shrine of the new synagogue. The new house of prayer is located, by and large, exactly where the old synagogue had been inaugurated in 1912 and burnt down in 1938.

In the autumn of 1945, the Jewish Community Regensburg (still bearing the English name; the German name "Jüdische Gemeinde Regensburg" followed in 1950) demanded the building of a new synagogue. But instead, as first steps the following happened: a Jewish high school came into being in 1946, a Kindergarten in 1951, an Orthodox cheder school in 1953, including a full-time rabbi. The old workdays' prayer room of the community building on Luzengasse served as the synagogue. In 1969, a so-called "multi-functional hall" (Mehrzwecksaal) was built right where the synagogue had stood when it was burnt down by the Nazis. In January 1971, this hall was also inaugurated as a synagogue. In 1986, a she-athing of rubble stone was put on the exterior wall facing the street to symbolize the broken history of the German Jews. Additionally, a large-sized, bronze-sheeted memorial tablet commemorates the story of the five deportations of Jews from Regensburg - as part of the genocide perpetrated by the Nazis -, which can be viewed again today. In 2013, a group of mostly non-Jewish citizens, the "Förderverein Neue Regensburger Synagoge", formed an association with the intent of building a new synagogue. The group collected money for a competition of ten architects which took place in 2015. It was won by the Berlin-based architects' firm "Büro Staab Architekten". "Stone by stone we will give back the synagogue to the Jewish Community which was destroyed in the pogrom night of 1938", was the promise. The "Förderverein" managed to do just that; it secured grants for the construction costs of nine million Euros: from Germany's federal government, from the state of Bavaria, the city of Regensburg, the Jewish Community and from private sponsors. The cornerstone for this distinctive building was laid in October 2016; the synagogue was inaugurated on February 27, 2019.

[19] STUMBLING THRESHOLDS

AM BRIXENER HOF 2, NEUE SYNAGOGUE, SÜDFASSADE

So far, only two "Stumbling Thresholds" (Stolperschwellen) have been put in front of the south facade of the new synagogue. The inscription reads as follows: "FROM HERE / 31 PEOPLE FORCIBLY HOUSED IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY HALL / DEPORTED ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1942 / THERESIENSTADT AND AUSCHWITZ / MURDERED".

"Cause of fire: unknown"- this conclusion was noted down in the city's fire brigade's daily report, dated November 10, 1938, which differs drastically from what the eye witness Frieda Rohrmeier stated in 1948 during a court trial: "They hoisted fire containers from a lorry and carried it in buckets into the synagogue ...". The Jewish Community Hall stood right next to the synagogue but came through the fire without significant damage. Therefore, the Nazi regime was able to use the rooms as accommodation for Jews whose apartments and houses had been "de-jewed" (entjudet). On September 23, 1942, a total number of 31 people were deported from here to Theresienstadt/Terezin: 18 women, 13 men, the oldest of them was 89 years old, the youngest 46 years old. In total, 117 men and women were deported from Regensburg on that day, during another deportation on April 4, 1942, 989 Jewish men, women, and children from all over Bavaria were taken by train to the town of Piaski, including 119 Jews from Regensburg. As soon as the train passed the border of the Reich, every deportee became stateless and destitute. All bank accounts, all real estate, and all other assets, all works of art, etc., owned by these unfortunate deportees, fell to the Reich.

Entrance of the new Synagogue opened in 2019, Am Brixener Hof 2

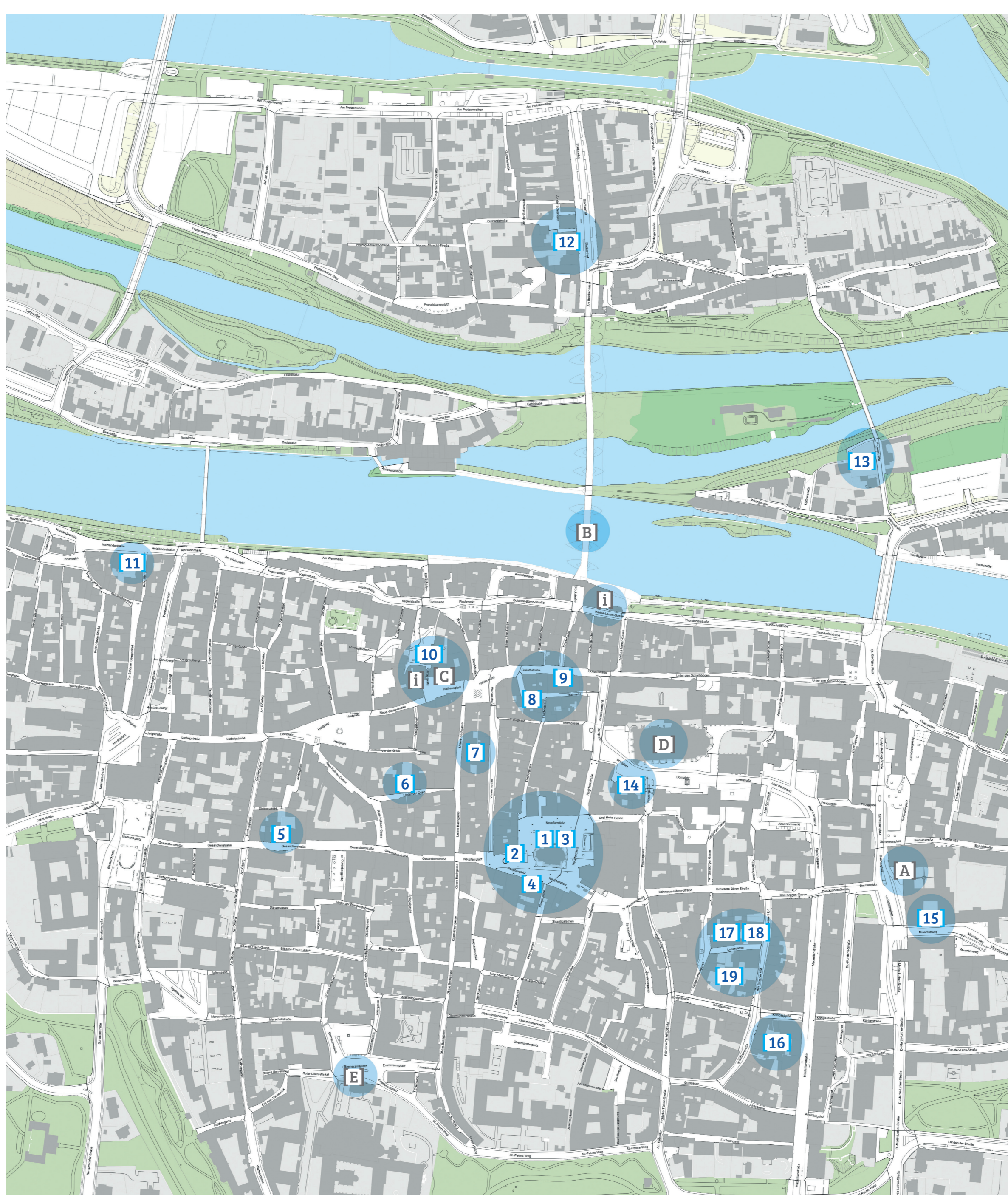


ADDRESSES AND MORE INFORMATION

Additional interesting digital information (photos, audios, texts, etc.) are accessible via a QR-Code.



- [1]** THE GOTHIC SYNAGOGUE
 - [2]** MEMORIAL "MISRACH"
 - [3]** DOCUMENT NEUPFARRPLATZ
Neupfarrplatz
 - [4]** STUMBLING STONES LILIENFELD
Neupfarrplatz, at the corner of Pfarrergasse
 - [5]** STUMBLING STONES "JUDENHAUS"
Gesandtenstraße 10, opposite the tower of Trinity Church
 - [6]** THE BAROQUE SYNAGOGUE
Hinter der Grieb 5
 - [7]** SYNAGOGUE 1841 TO 1907
Untere Bachgasse 3/5
 - [8]** STUMBLING STONES ROSENKRANZ
Am Watmarkt 4, next to the tower "Dampfnudel-Uli"
 - [9]** EMILIE AND OSKAR SCHINDLER: "RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS"
Am Watmarkt 5
 - [10]** JEWISH TOMBSTONES
passageway between the Old City Hall (Altes Rathaus) and the street called Roter Herzfleck
 - [11]** MIKVEH
An der Holzlande 5 (Private residence, not accessible)
 - [12]** INFO-STELES COLOSSEUM
Stadthof
 - [13]** STUMBLING STONE FIRNBACHER
Proskestraße 5
 - [14]** THE CATHEDRAL'S "JUDENSAU"
Domplatz 1, south façade of the cathedral
 - [15]** FORMER GESTAPO QUARTERS
Minoritenweg 1
 - [16]** STUMBLING STONES – HOLZINGER
Maximilianstraße 16, at the corner of Königstraße
 - [17]** THE SYNAGOGUE 1912 TO 1938
 - [18]** THE NEW SYNAGOGUE OF 2019
Am Brixener Hof 2
 - [19]** STUMBLING THRESHOLDS
Am Brixener Hof 2, new synagogue south façade
 - [A]** HISTORISCHES MUSEUM REGENSBURG
(museum of history) Dachhauptplatz
 - [B]** STEINERNE BRÜCKE
(stone bridge)
 - [C]** OLD TOWN HALL
Rathausplatz
 - [D]** ST PETERS CATHEDRAL
Domplatz 1
 - [E]** CLOISTER ST. EMMERAM
Emmeramsplatz 3
 - [i]** WORLD HERITAGE VISITOR CENTER REGENSBURG
Weiße-Lamm-Gasse 1
- TOURIST INFORMATION REGENSBURG**
Rathausplatz 4



Rediscover

JEWISH HERITAGE UNCOVERED

A Tour of Regensburg



STADT REGENSBURG

LECHAIM!
JEWISH HERITAGE UNCOVERED.

לַחַיִּים

"Lechaim" is a Jewish toast expression that means "to life!" Dealing with Jewish life and culture, the City of Regensburg is involved in the EU-project REDISCOVER. The aim of REDISCOVER is to expose and exploit the concealed Jewish heritage of the Danube region by developing offers accessible to a wide public. Nine partner cities of the Danube region are dedicated to this EU-project. The project's timeframe is three years and it is mostly financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) within the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme.

At a local level the project has gathered many experts of different fields and pilot projects have been created. Among other pilots, a cultural guide of Jewish traces in Regensburg and a cookbook are being developed.

This city map is designed to show distinctive Jewish places in Regensburg and to convey their historical and current relevance. Through the proposed tour it is possible to discover the traces of the past and perceive the present with new eyes. Each station has its own short explanation and additional interesting digital information (photos, audios, texts, etc.) are accessible via a QR-Code.

Interreg
Danube Transnational Programme
REDISCOVER



The Stone Bridge



Tomstone, Hinter der Grieb 2



Memorial "Misrach" from Dani Karavan, Neupfarrplatz



School project Stumbling stone



Tomstone, Neue-Waag-Gasse 2

IMPRESSUM

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Pictures Stadt Regensburg (Peter Ferstl and Stefan Effenhauser)

Graphic design Gegensatz Grafikbüro – Christine Kammhuber

Print Erhardi Druck GmbH