

Memorial for the present and the future

On November 10th, 2011, some 73 years after the Reichspogromnacht (Night of Broken Glass), during a meeting of the Montabaur Town Council, a majority decision was made to support the private „Stolpersteine“ initiative, in remembrance of those victims of National Socialist terror who were in Montabaur.

The accompanying content for the project is being provided by the town archives. Private donors are financing the „Stolpersteine“. Sponsorship for the creation and insertion of one of the „Stolpersteine“ costs 120 Euro. Within Montabaur itself there are plans for 27 „Stolpersteine“. Additionally, there are also plans to place these commemorative markers in other towns within the Montabaur municipal association.



National Socialist terror in Montabaur

The darkest chapter in Montabaur history began with the NSDAP (National Socialist German Worker's Party) government takeover on the 30th of January, 1933.

Those hardest hit by the National Socialist backlash were in the Jewish community, which had been a part of Montabaur for centuries. National Socialist laws and regulations caused the Jewish citizens to be excluded from the the local community.

The height of the early persecution resulted in the „Reichskristallnacht“ (Night of Broken Glass), which actually occurred over two nights, on the 9th and 10th of November, 1938. The Synagogue in Montabaur was burned. Members of the SA (paramilitary troops) in Höhr and Grenzhausen were deployed as henchmen, during which they publicly abused the Jewish citizens and destroyed their homes and businesses.

The Jewish citizens attempted to leave the town as quickly as possible. They were forced to sell their homes, usually at a large financial loss. Unfortunately, not all of the Jewish families were able to successfully flee. 25 of Montabaur's Jewish citizens fell victim to the Holocaust.

The Barmherzigen Brüder (Merciful Brethren) were forced to curtail their work under the National Socialist regime. In 1936 the Caritashaus (Roman Catholic charity building) was forced to close by the National Socialists. Mentally ill patients were taken to state-run institutions, such as those in Hadamar and Weilmünster, where they were murdered. The overseer of the order, Brother Rektor Hyazinth, was charged with supposed currency racketeering and consequently died in in prison in 1937.

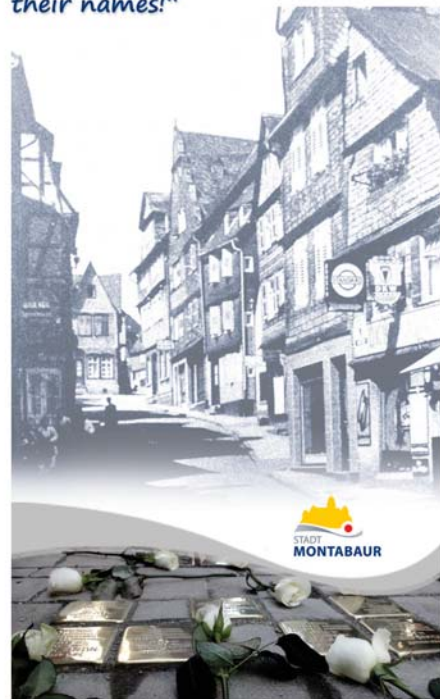
The National Socialist terror also claimed political victims in Montabaur. This is evidenced by the March 26th, 1945 murder of National Socialist opposition member Alois Skatulla, who was killed by a gunshot wound to his neck only one hour before the arrival of American troops in the town.

All of the victims of the National Socialist terror in Montabaur will be remembered in the present and future with a „Stolperstein“ commemorative marker.

Information

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*„People are only truly forgotten
when others no longer remember
their names!“*



Stolpersteine
Stolpersteine
Stolpersteine

„People are only truly forgotten when others no longer remember their names!“

This is the phrase used by the artist, Gunter Demnig, a Cologne resident, to describe the goal of his Germany-wide „Stolpersteine“ project. „Stolpersteine“ are commemorative markers made of brass that are inserted into specific sidewalk locations in front of the last addresses where the victims of the NAZI regime freely chose to live. These fabricated brass plates, are each individually created to emphasize the opposition to the machine-like Holocaust perpetrated in the concentration camps. Engraved in each „Stolperstein“ will be the name of, as well as the fate met by each individual; and each will serve as reminder to us all of the horrors suffered by the expulsion and extermination of the gypsies, Jews, and homosexuals, as well as those who were politically persecuted.

Over the last 20 years, Gunter Demnig has already placed his finished brass plates into the sidewalks of approximately 700 German and European towns and cities, each one in front of the last freely chosen address of the victims of the National Socialist Party. With an initial five „Stolpersteinen“, Montabaur is now also taking part in this international and decentralized memorial.



„Stolpersteine“ in Montabaur:

Commemorating those citizens of Montabaur, that were jewish, political, or religious victims of the National Socialist Regime

Kleiner Markt 3
HUGO ABRAHAM
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
DIED: JANUARY 1st, 1943

Kleiner Markt 3
REGINE ABRAHAM
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
DIED: MARCH 8th, 1944

Alleestraße 5
MOSES FALKENSTEIN
DETAINED AT WESTERBORK
DEPORTED: 1943
SOBIBOR
MURDERED
MARCH 26th, 1943

Vorderer Rebstock 29
ERWIN KAHN
DETAINED AT DRANCY
DEPORTED: 1942
MURDERED IN
AUSCHWITZ

Vorderer Rebstock 38
LEOPOLD KAHN
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
1942 TREBLINKA
MURDERED

Vorderer Rebstock 38
HILDA KAHN
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
1942 TREBLINKA
MURDERED

Herzog-Adolf-Straße 4
LEOPOLD HEILBERG
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
1944 AUSCHWITZ
MURDERED

Herzog-Adolf-Straße 4
JENNY HEILBERG
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
1944 AUSCHWITZ
MURDERED

Steinweg 19
HEINRICH HEIMANN
DEPORTED: 1942
EASTERLY DIRECTION
DECLARED DEAD
MAY 8th, 1945

Vorderer Rebstock 38
ERICH KAHN
„PROTECTIVE CUSTODY“
1938
DACHAU
DIED: JANUARY 14th, 1939

Alleestraße 5
DAVID LEVY
DETAINED
AT WESTERBORK
DEPORTED: 1944
THERESIENSTADT
MURDERED IN
AUSCHWITZ

Großer Markt 15
ALFRED LÖB
DEPORTED: 1942
EASTERLY DIRECTION
FATE UNKNOWN

Steinweg 19
RESCHA HEIMANN
DEPORTED: 1942
EASTERLY DIRECTION
DECLARED DEAD
MAY 8th, 1945

Vorderer Rebstock 23
ADOLF HEIMANN
DEPORTED: 1942
EASTERLY DIRECTION
DECLARED DEAD
MAY 8th, 1945

Vorderer Rebstock 23
BETTY HEIMANN
DEPORTED: 1942
SOBIBOR
MURDERED

Biergasse 6
ALOIS SKATULLA
RESISTANCE MEMBER
ARRESTED IN 1945
„SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES“
DISTRICT COURT
OF MONTABOUR
SHOT ON MARCH 26TH, 1945

Bahnhofstraße 24
WILLY STERN
DEPORTED: 1942
FATE UNKNOWN

Bahnhofstraße 24
BETTY STERN
DEPORTED: 1942
SOBIBOR
MURDERED

Vorderer Rebstock 23
INGEBORG HEIMANN
INSTITUTIONALIZED 1940
JACOBY'SCHE INSTITUTE
BENDORF-SAYN
DEPORTED: 1942
KRASNICZYN
MURDERED

Vorderer Rebstock 24
ALBERT KAHN
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
1942 TREBLINKA
MURDERED

Vorderer Rebstock 24
BILLA KAHN
NEE WOLFF
DEPORTED: 1942
THERESIENSTADT
1942 TREBLINKA
MURDERED

Alleestraße 8a
JULIUS STERN
DEPORTED: 1942
EASTERLY DIRECTION
???

Alleestraße 8a
FRIEDA STERN
DEPORTED: 1942
EASTERLY DIRECTION
???

Ignatius-Lötschert-Straße 2
ÖTTMAR VEY
BRUDER REKTOR HYAZINTH
ARRESTED IN 1935
„CURRENCY RACKETEERING“
DIED: SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1937
BRANDENBURG PENITENTIARY

Individual biographics, if available, can be found under the "Stadtarchiv" menu point at www.montabaur.de