



Our Family

by

Heinz and Thea Ruth Skyte, née Ephraim

The Sterns in Kitzingen

Abraham Baer Stern, son of Moses Stern and his second wife Kaetchen Scheidt, was born in Mainstockheim on 3 October 1835. (some records give his place of birth as Volkach). On 25 November 1862 he married Hannchen Scheidt, daughter of Leser Scheidt and Mina née Kuhn, born in Mainstockheim on 31 July 1843.

After the edict of 1861, which allowed Jews to settle anywhere in Bavaria, Abraham had applied on 6 October 1862 for permission to settle in Kitzingen as a butcher and to open a restaurant. His application was at first refused (19 December 1862), as there were sufficient butchers in Kitzingen. On 14 January 1863, however, he was accepted as master butcher but his restaurant application was again refused. He and Hannchen moved to Kitzingen on the following day, 15 January 1863. Abraham persisted with his restaurant application, which was refused for a third time on 28 July 1864 as "there were only six Jewish families in Kitzingen, though many people were working there, but there were plenty of restaurants". (1) He later became a wine merchant.

Abraham, together with his cousins Louis and Bernhard Scheidt, was amongst the ten Jews to form the first Minyan after Kitzingen Jews had been granted permission to form their own congregation on 1 January 1865.

The family lived in Kitzingen house #604. Their children were all born in Kitzingen:

- Hanna Stern, 13 September 1863.
- Sophia Stern, 1 January 1865 - 24 July 1868 Kitzingen.
- Max Stern was born on 3 August 1866. He became a partner in the wholesale wine merchants Schloss & Stern in Kitzingen. In Schweinfurt on 7 August 1895 he married Emma Mohr (3 July 1875 Schweinfurt - 2 September 1927 Kitzingen).
- Moritz Stern, 9 June 1868 Kitzingen - 26 June 1868 Kitzingen.
- Pauline Stern, 9 June 1868 - 23 June 1868 Kitzingen.
- Pauline Stern, 2 July 1869.
- Hedwig Stern, 12 October 1873.
- Zaelma Stern, 11 June 1875.

- Eugen Stern, 1 August 1877 In 1906 he married Emilie Schmidt, born 18 July 1882 in Burgkunstadt. The 1925/26 Kitzingen address book lists him as having a wholesale wine business in Moltkestrasse.

Hirsch Stern and his Descendants

Hirsch Stern, son of Joseph Wolf Stern and Sara née Friedmann, was born in Mainstockheim on 11 January 1822. (See The Sterns in Mainstockheim) In 1848 Hirsch received special permission to start an ironmonger business in Kitzingen, though was not allowed to live in Kitzingen and had to leave the town before nightfall to return to Mainstockheim. Hirsch and his family eventually moved to Kitzingen. In 1875 Hirsch became a member of the executive committee of the new Kitzingen Jewish congregation and started the building fund for the synagogue. He was elected president of the congregation between 1878-1883. On 31 July 1882 he was one of the people who ceremoniously laid the foundation stone for the new Kitzingen Synagogue.

His son **Benjamin Stern** (28 May 1851 Mainstockheim - 7 October 1926 Kitzingen) on 26 February 1876 married Antonia Erlanger, born 29 July 1856 in Dottenheim and died in Bayreuth on 11 February 1927. Benjamin was a partner in the ironmonger business H. Schloss founded by his father. He followed in his father's footsteps and in 1883 was elected to the executive committee of the congregation and was its president between 1886 - 1889. After serving as Vice-president he was re-elected President in 1892 and served in that capacity until his death in 1926. During his years of office Benjamin Stern started a general welfare fund for the poor and needy of the community. To mark the Silver Jubilee of his presidency the community endowed a fund for the training of Jewish teachers, which was to bear his name.

Children of Benjamin and Antonia:

- Sigmund Stern ,born 29 January 1877 in Kitzingen remained single. He was a merchant in Nuremberg, but in 1936 moved from there to Fuerth and lived as a lodger at Dina Hartmann's in Maxstrasse 1. His efforts to emigrate to Palestine were unsuccessful. On 22 March 1942 he was deported to Izbica and is reported as "missing". (2)
- Margarete (Gretchen) Stern born 30 June 1878 in Kitzingen. She was married to Aron Eisenmann, who died in October 1899. Margarete died on 12 July 1933.
- Sofie Stern 17 September 1879 Kitzingen - 1 March 1881 Kitzingen
- Rosel Stern born 14 October 1881 Kitzingen and died: 2 June 1935. She married Willi Wolff (15 November 1871 - 30 October 1933).
- Adolf Stern born 14 April 1883 in Kitzingen. In World War I he was a corporal in the 5th Bavarian infantry regiment and died 16 September 1916. (3)
- Samuel (Salli) Stern (14 April 1883 Kitzingen - 14 April 1953) married 21 April 1914 Else Stark (30 October 1893 - 4 October 1938)
- Dina Stern (2 September 1884 in Kitzingen - 2 January 1921) married Julius van Cleef (19 February 1877).
- Meta Stern born 6 August 1887 in Kitzingen. On 27 January 1907 she married Leopold Wolff born 15 November 1875 in Darmstadt.

Sigmund (Suess) Stern, younger son of Hirsch and Sara née Friedmann, was born in Mainstockheim on 26 April 1855. On 21 March 1882 he married Eva Bodenheimer (22 August 1862 in Biblis). He was also a partner in the family firm H. Schloss and served the Jewish community as a trustee. Sigmund moved to Frankfurt in 1933.

Children of Sigmund and Eva:

- Selma Stern, 22 July 1883 Kitzingen.
- Leo Stern, 6 September 1884 Kitzingen - 21 November 1938 in Buchenwald Concentration Camp.
- Josef Stern, 3 July 1890 Kitzingen. In 1919 Josef moved Frankfurt am Main.

Max Stern, eldest son of Abraham Baer Stern and Amalie née Lichtenauer, was born 5 June 1876 in Mainstockheim and became a wine merchant in Kitzingen. He married to Rosa Mayer (31 August 1885 Kitzingen) on 13 June 1907. In 1939 they fled to Belgium and after the occupation of Belgium and France were arrested trying to cross into unoccupied France. After being imprisoned in Wuerzburg they were deported to Izbica on 25 April 1942 and murdered.

Bernhard Stern, tenth and youngest child of Meyer and Regina née Hanauer was born in Mainstockheim on 10 September 1875. He was married to Frieda Zimmerman and settled as a wine merchant in Kitzingen, where he died on 13 May 1936.

Descendants of Jacob and Sara Stern of Laudенbach

The following of the nine children of Jacob and Sara née Stern (daughter Samuel Stern and Esther née Sonder of Mainstockheim) settled in Kitzingen:

Isak Stern, born in Laudенbach on 12 May 1868. He married Flora Klein of Gnodstadt (born about 1875). Isak died on 8 May 1906 and was survived by his widow for some twenty years or so. Flora is still recorded as a member of the Kitzingen congregation in 1925. He established a business dealing in oil and fat together with his brother

Abraham Adolf Stern. Abraham (10 May 1880 Laudенbach), who changed his name to Adolf, was the youngest of the children of Jacob and Sara married Hilde Stern, daughter Josef Stern and his wife Fanny née Schloss, born in Mainstockheim on 9 June 1894. Adolf died in Kitzingen on 6 February 1935.

Heinrich Stern, (10 December 1872, Laudенbach - 4 January 1933 Kitzingen) became a wine merchant in Kitzingen. He was married to Hannchen Hedwig Neumann of Gmuenden.

Ella Stern, one of the daughters of Jacob and Sara, born 13 March 1864 in Laudенbach married the widower Joseph Fromm, a member of a family of Kitzingen wine merchants.

Footnotes

- (1) Stadtarchiv Kitzingen
- (2) Gedenkbuch Fuerth
- (3) RJF