



Installation at the location



James Lissauer and his wife Dora, nee Wissner, b.1897, lived at Altengammer Straße 13.



Altengammer Straße today,
Photo: 2009, Heidemarie Kugler-Weiemann

From 1934 to 1938 James Lissauer, together with his non-Jewish wife Dora, lived in the attic flat at Altengammer Straße 13. The owner of the building lived on the first floor while the ground floor was rented out to another family.

James Lissauer was born on the 8th of February 1885 in Hamburg as son of Ephraim Joseph Lissauer, a trader from Lübeck, and his non-Jewish wife Helene, neé Lissauer. The extended Lissauer family had been resident in Lübeck since 1848 and even earlier than that in Moisling.



A portion from the 1848 announcement "concerning

the family names adopted by the Israelite residents in the State of Lübeck".

Jacob Haimann Lissauer, James's grandfather, had bought the building Schildstraße as residence of his family and headquarters of his company after he moved to Lübeck. Here James Lissauer grew up among his parents, siblings, grandparents and other relatives. He had four elder brothers: Meno, Hermann, Ernst and Friedemannfriedo, his elder sister Betty and his younger sister Irma.



Inscription of the installation:

HIER WOHNTE
JAMES LISSAUER
JG. 1885
FLUCHT 1939 HOLLAND
INTERNIERT
WESTERBORK
DEPORTIERT 1944
THERESIENSTADT
ERMORDET 7.7.1944
AUSCHWITZ

installation
25 April 2009

HIER WOHNTE
DORA LISSAUER
GEB. WISSNER
JG. 1897
FLUCHT 1939
HOLLAND
INTERNIERT
WESTERBORK
TOT 29.5.1941

installation
6th of May 2014

Schildstraße with a view of
Aegidienkirche (St. Giles Church), the
third building from the left is No. 5.
Foto: Museum für Kunst und
Kulturgeschichte der Hansestadt
Lübeck

It can be assumed that James attended the school of the Israelite Community, which was held in the new synagogue in St.-Annen-Straße. There he also attended religious education by Rabbi Salomon Carlebach.

According to the Lübeck directories of 1908 and 1909 there were the names of Ephraim Joseph Lissauer, trader, Hermann Lissauer, junk dealer and Simon Emmering, livestock dealer at Schildstraße 5. Simon Emmering who came from Holland, had married James's elder sister Betty in 1904.

When the grandparents had died the parents lived with their four children on the second floor. Until 1926 James Lissauer lived at Schildstraße 5. It was obviously only then that the then 41-year-old journeyman butcher established his own home. His wife Dora Christine Elisa, née Wisser, was twelve years younger than he. She was a Protestant, and was born in Lübeck on the 15th of December 1897. They moved within the district of St.Lorenz from Hansering 17 to Sumpfkrog 8 then to Brüderstraße 5 before they moved to Stockelsdorf just to the west of Lübeck in 1930, then back to Ritterstraße 24 in June 1931 and finally to Altengammer Straße 13 on the 7th of May 1934.

The couple had no children.

James Lissauer's job titles changed from journeyman butcher to haulier of cattle to finally simply transport worker. Presumably he first worked at the Lübeck Slaughterhouse but with the Jews working there experiencing increasing difficulties he left and tried to earn a living in other ways.



1935 Leaflet, inserted into the newspapers calling on people to boycott Jewish places of business



Cattle market in Lübeck, 1935

The last entries on his registration card are stamped with "Erk. dienstlich behandelt" (German for „fingerprinted and photographed) and "20thDec. 38 / 4th February 39 n. Holland von Amts wegen" (German for „In Holland as ordered by the government"). From this we can conclude that James Lissauer was among the many Jewish men, who were arrested during the night of the pogrom on the 9th and 10th of November 1938. Like all the other men from Lübeck, who had been arrested, he was sent to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp north of Berlin. Through his family connections with the Emmering family, who had already emigrated to Holland, he was able to obtain his release and flee to Holland in December 1938, where his wife was able to follow him in early February 1939.

But the safety from the Nazis his exile in Holland provided him died shortly after he arrived. After Holland's occupation by the Germans in May 1940 Dora and James Lissauer were interned in Camp Westerbork, Holland. There Dora Lissauer lost her life on 29 May 1941 aged 43 years.

On the 18th of January 1944 James Lissauer was deported to Theresienstadt, (now Terezin, Czech Republic) and from there on the 16th of May 1944 to Auschwitz. James Lissauer was murdered on the 7th of July 1944, at the age of 59.

A lot of James Lissauer's relatives also became victims of Shoah. Here we want to name only few names: His younger sister Irma Rosenstein, née Lissauer, born 1896, her husband Otto Rosenstein, her daughter Leah Lieselotte, born 1929, and their little son Ferdinand Epraim, born 1937 all died in Litzmannstadt, (now Lodz, Poland). Their son Hermann Rosenstein, born 1922, fled from Lübeck to Amsterdam, was first deported to Auschwitz and lost his life in an air attack while being in a transport of prisoners from a subcamp of concentration camp Dachau near Munich..

His elder sister Betty Emmering, née Lissauer, born 1881, was deported from Holland first to Bergen-Belsen, then to Theresienstadt, (now Terezin, Czech Republic) and then on to Auschwitz and was murdered there. Also their children lost their lives in various extermination camps. Only her daughter Marianne could escape to the USA. Presumably she was the only survivor of her extended family.

References in Addition to Standard Reference Materials:

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- Yad Vashem, The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names
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Heidmarie Kugler-Weimann, 2009 and 2012

Translation: Martin Harnisch and Glenn Sellick