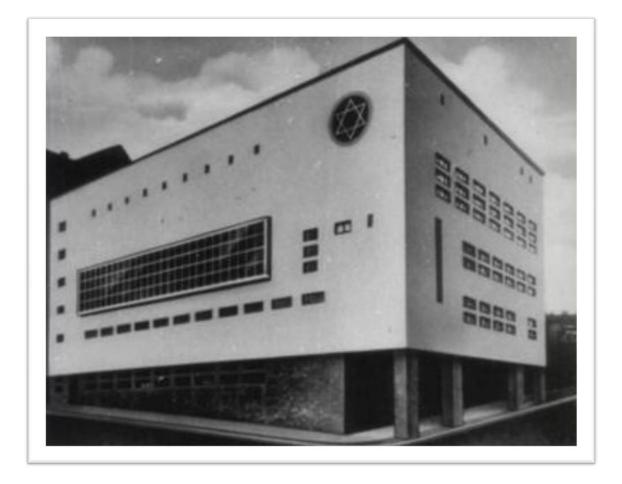


Photo card 1:

Community building and synagogue, Plauen, Germany



This is the last synagogue to be built in Plauen. This Reform Synagogue was built between 1928 and 1930 and as well as housing a synagogue also had rooms that could be used by the community. It was designed by the architect Fritz Landauer.



Photo card 2:

History of the Jewish community in Plauen

There had been a Jewish people living in Plauen since 1308. The Jewish community began to grow again in the 1870s. People began to move from other areas to live here.

Before the First World War in 1914 the Jewish population was 800. Some Jewish people had moved to Plauen from Poland and the surrounding towns because of the success of the lace industry. In 1925 there were 623 Jewish people living in Plauen and by 1933 the Jewish population had fallen to 519.





Photo card 3

Industry and population in Plauen

Plauen's lace industry dated back to the 15th Century. With new machinery and lace factories it began to develop further in the 1800s.

In 1900 the Plauen lace industry won a gold medal at the Paris Exhibition. Making and selling lace trade began to decline after the First World War.





Plauen is situated in South East Germany in the region of Saxony. It is not far from the Czech border. (Plauen is marked on the map here as a red dot, Saxony is shaded pink).

In the early years of the 20th Century the total population peaked at 128,000. The population began to decline after the First World War.

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Photo card 4

Dingfelder family

This photograph was taken in the city of Plauen and shows Leopold Dingfelder's butchers shop.

In front of the shop you can see Leopold, his wife Johanna and his eldest son Martin.

As the political situation in Plauen became more difficult for Jewish families Martin, who by that time was grown up, left Germany and moved to America. Martin's mother, father and younger brother, Rudi, also left and moved to the Netherlands.

You can find out what happened to Rudi and his parents by visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website <u>www.ushmm.org</u> and typing 'Dingfelder' into the search engine.





Photo card 5

Klipstein family

Ursula Klipstein was born in Plauen in 1930. Her family left Plauen when she was two, but her grandparents continued to live there. When she was eight years old Ursula returned to Plauen with her parents, they moved in with her grandparents (her mother's mum and dad) Theresa and Albert Wertheimer.

Ursula's parents tried to acquire visas to leave Germany, but had no luck and one by one, her father Leo, mother Irma and Ursula escaped to Belgium.

This document was filled by Ursula in 2007. It is in memory of her Grandmother.

Read it carefully – what do you notice about Ursula and her name, what clues does this document give as to why she survived the events of the Holocaust?

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You can find out more about what happened to Ursula and her parents by visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website <u>www.ushmm.org</u>. Type 'Klipstein' into the search engine.



Photo card 6

Destruction of the synagogue and the Jewish community today

On the 10 November 1938, the eight year old reform synagogue in Plauen was set on fire and destroyed as part of the November Pogrom (also known as *Kristallnacht*). After this event most of the remaining Jewish people left Plauen, including Dr Isidore Goldberg, who moved to France. By 1939 there were only 134 Jewish people living in the city.



This photograph shows the site of the synagogue today – a church has been built there.

Today in Plauen there is no Jewish community, although a few people returned after the war. The last Jewish person known to have lived there died in 1957. The Jewish community are



remembered in a small museum at the old Jewish cemetery as well as in other museums in the city. The synagogue that stood on the site was recreated virtually by the students at Darmstadt Technical University in 1995.