

Cilli Hirsch née. Oberndorf

Graben 9

Alice Martha Hirsch née. Oberndorf

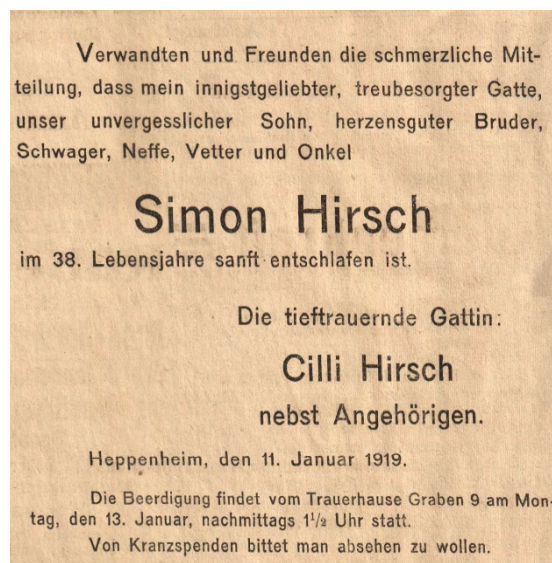
Kleiner Markt 4

Lore Hirsch mar. Liebermann

Kleiner Markt 4

Cilli Oberndorf was born on 29 November 1883 in Heppenheim and grew up with her three brothers at Kleiner Markt 4. She attended the secondary school in Heppenheim and then the housekeeping school in Bensheim. She received music lessons from the piano teacher Mrs Werle.

In 1913, Cilli married the merchant Simon Hirsch, who also came from a Heppenheim family, and lived with him at Graben 9.



Simon traded in grain, flour, potatoes and other products - but he focussed more and more on the flour trade. Together with his brother Ludwig, he founded the company OHG Mühlenfabrikate und Landesprodukte. Cilli reported: *“During the war, my husband was the head of flour supply for the entire district of Heppenheim and was therefore deferred from military service”*.

Simon Hirsch died in 1919 at the age of 38.

Her cousin **Martha Alice Oberndorf** was born on 2 August 1891 and grew up in the immediate neighbourhood. Martha’s mother died in childbirth when her second child was born – Martha was just 10 years old.

In 1915 – the First World War had already begun – Martha Oberndorf became engaged to Ludwig Hirsch - Simon’s brother-- and the two married in 1918. Their cousin Cilli was now also their sister-in-law.

However, the couple were only granted a very short time together.

Towards the end of the war, Ludwig was exempted from military service for a while in order to secure the district's food supply together with his brother. He fell ill with "influenza contracted in the field" and died in November 1918.

Martha Alice was widowed after only 6 months – and she was pregnant. Her daughter Lore was born in February 1919.



Foto: W. Metzendorf,
*Geschichte und Geschehnisse
der Heppenheimer Juden*



Lore never met her father and she was never to meet her uncle Simon. Simon Hirsch, Cilli's husband, died just two months after Ludwig in

January 1919, leaving the cousins and sisters-in-law both widowed.

From now on, the company was in the hands of Cilli and Martha. Cilli's brothers Simon and Leo Oberndorf were taken on as managing partners

and continued to run the business together with Cilli and Martha.

Lore Hirsch, born in 1919, went to primary school in Heppenheim from 1925, moved to Bensheim and attended the Institut der Englischen Fräulein (Institute for the English girl) there.

She left the Höhere Töchterchule in 1935 with her school-leaving certificate.

Lore wanted to study medicine. Looking back, Lore wrote: " ... but I didn't even start my studies as a business assistant in Darmstadt because of the Nazi difficulties, but began my training in a private household". But she couldn't stay there. She then began an apprenticeship as a tailor in Frankfurt. Lore had to abandon this apprenticeship in 1938: Her mother had organised her departure from Heppenheim, from Germany.

Martha and her daughter Lore Hirsch left Germany on 1 July 1938. Together with Leo Oberndorf, they boarded the ship "Europa" in Bremen, which took them to New York.

Cilli Hirsch fled a few months later. She lived through the Pogrom Night in Heppenheim. After the war, she reported: "... During the persecution of Jews at the time, the Nazis broke into my flat and smashed everything to bits ... After the flat was destroyed, I travelled to relatives in Frankfurt ...". On 25 November 1938, she boarded the Columbus ship to New York in Bremen. Simon and Hedwig Oberndorf, her brother and sister-in-law, also left Germany with her.



Cilli Hirsch



Martha Hirsch



Lore Hirsch

Cilli worked in nursing in New York. She died in 1967.

Martha died in New York in 1979.

Lore married Fred Liebermann from Hanover in 1942. They lived in New York and had an orthopaedic shop there. The couple had no children.

Sources

1. HStAD_G15
2. HHStAW, 518, 34599
3. Lagis Hessen, BMD Register
4. W. Metzendorf, Geschichte und Geschicke der Heppenheimer Juden
5. Verordnungs- und Anzeigenblatt für den Kreis Heppenheim
6. Bremer Passenger Lists