

HISTORICAL JEWISH LIFE IN RIMBACH



Old town hall and residence of Cäcilie Oppenheimer



The photo shows the old Rimbach Town Hall on the right, which was built in 1714. To its left, there is the house of Cäcilie (Cilly) Oppenheimer, which she purchased in 1933 from the Rheinische Kreditbank AG Mannheim. It had previously belonged to Cilly's sister Johanna and her husband David David, who owned an oil mill behind the house (see the information board *David David's oil mill* at the rear of the town hall). On 3 December 1938, the "Ordinance on the Use of Jewish Property" was issued in the German Reich. It required Jews to sell their businesses and property.

In 1939, the municipality of Rimbach rented office space in Cilly Oppenheimer's house.

Following November Pogrom, Cilly Oppenheimer moved to Mannheim on 1 March 1939. On 22 October 1940, she was deported from Mannheim to Gurs, and later via Drancy to Auschwitz, where she was murdered in 1942 at the age of 50. One day after her deportation, on 23 October 1940, the municipality of Rimbach "acquired" Cilly Oppenheimer's house and used it as its "new" town hall. Both town halls were replaced in 1955/56 by the current town hall, which was built entirely on former Jewish property.

In 1953, the municipality of Rimbach paid Cilly Oppenheimer's heirs compensation of 7,000 Deutsche Marks. These heirs were descendants of the sister of her father Hermann Oppenheimer and the brother of her mother Bertha, née Altstädter.

Image and information sources:

- A journey through local history) edited by Karl-Ludwig Schmitt
- History of the Jewish residents of Rimbach by Wolfgang Gebhard

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translation

