

## A walk through the Protestant cemetery in Thessaloniki



"Where have you come from, where are you going?" Genesis 16:8

The Protestant Cemetery Association was founded in 1887 by a Scottish minister, the Reverend Peter Crosbie. It was created by the association of all Thessaloniki's Protestant congregations, to enable them to provide for the burial of their dead according to the Protestant rite, which particularly includes the undisturbed rest of the departed. The cemetery is now a listed monument and is managed by the "Cemetery Association", representing the city's eleven Protestant parishes.

The Protestant cemetery (*Nekrotafion Diamartiromenon*) itself, located on today's Eleni Zografou street, opposite the Greek Orthodox Evangelistria cemetery, must be much older. The oldest surviving gravestone dates back to 1849 (Rev. Maynard; see below); this burial is also the first one listed in the records of the cemetery association.

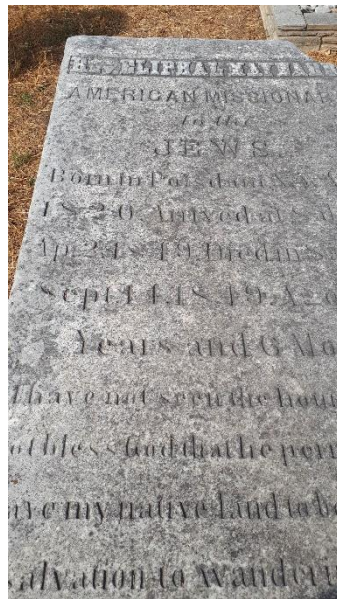
A piece of the city's history can be read from the old gravestones: they provide information about railway employees, consuls, victims of epidemics and assassinations, craftsmen and missionaries.

Thessaloniki (Saloniki, Salonique, Selanik, Salonika, Solun, to list but a few of the city's names) occupies a site where many paths have always crossed. Diplomats, traders, engineers and railway workers, teachers, artists, clergymen,

and women who had found love came and went along these paths. Some stayed only briefly, some longer, and for some their lives ended here.

## Clergymen and doctors

In the 19th century, attempts were made, mainly by British and American missionaries, to proselytise the Jews living in the Ottoman Empire.



P 13<sup>1</sup>

One of these was **Rev. Eliphal Maynard**. Born in Potsdam, NY, he travelled to Smyrna immediately after his ordination in 1848, arriving there in February 1849. He was thrilled to learn from the British ambassador that more than 30,000 Jews lived in Salonika and immediately began to study Ladino, the Judeo-Spanish spoken by the city's Sephardic Jews. On 2 June 1849, he moved to Salonika, where the representatives of the London Jews' Society, Rev. Lord and Rev. Goldberg, were already waiting for him. In August, before beginning his missionary work, he set off on a tour of Mount Olympus with another American clergyman. They hiked without sun protection and slept in the open air. On his return, Maynard fell ill and died in Salonika on 14 September 1849. His gravestone is the oldest still preserved in this cemetery.

---

<sup>1</sup> Location of the grave



P 15

**Harriette Gertrude Buttrick**, née Morgan (1822-1852) was born in Clinton, NY in 1822 and married the American missionary Rev. Homer B. Morgan on 5 August 1851. They left Boston by ship on 17 October 1851 and arrived in Salonika on 16 February 1852. In order to escape the unhealthy climate in the city, they lived in a house in the country. At the same time, the missionaries Rev Dodd and Rev Parsons were also living in Salonika with their wives. All three belonged to the American Missionary Society, whose aim was to proselytise the Jews living in the Ottoman Empire (especially in Constantinople, Thessaloniki and Smyrna). After the death of Rev. Eliphal Maynard (see above), they took over his position, supported by Armenian assistants. Harriette Buttrick died of typhus only 7 months after her arrival and was buried in the Protestant cemetery. Her grave is still preserved.





S 13

**Rev. Peter Crosbie** (25/02/1828 - 22/11/1904) came from Scotland and also belonged to a church that had set itself the mission of preaching to the Jews. Crosbie "did not convert and baptise Jews, but he ran a girls' school which was attended by Jewish girls from the upper classes. The main idea behind his work was to infuse the purely oriental, strictly Jewish-Orthodox world of thought of adolescent females with a Christian view of life through this school."<sup>2</sup> His main concern was the pastoral care of the city's English-speaking residents, but he also served the Germans, Austrians and Swiss as a pastor until 1895, when Martin Braunschweig, the first German pastor, was sent to Thessaloniki. Crosbie made his rooms available to the small congregation for meetings and church services, which he conducted. For his services to the German-speaking Protestants, the German Emperor Wilhelm II presented him with a silver chalice with a personal dedication from the monarch in 1893.

Crosbie died on 22 November 1904 in Thessaloniki. The inscription on his gravestone reads: "He was a missionary of the Church of Scotland to the Jews in Salonika for 47 years."

---

<sup>2</sup> Max Brunau, *Das Deutschtum in Mazedonien*, p. 69



H 5

Another English clergyman buried in this cemetery is **Rev. Peter Donaldson** (1855 - 13 February 1927) He was born in Muthill, Scotland, studied at the University of Glasgow and was sent to Constantinople as a Presbyterian missionary in 1882. Via Alexandria and Smyrna, where he met his future wife, he arrived in Thessaloniki around 1886. He was not active in the "Jewish mission", but founded a school. From 1903, he also worked as an English teacher at the German School, which some of his 10 children also attended. His daughter Queenie lived in Greece until at least 1945.

Donaldson died on 13 February 1927; his children William, Margareth and John, who died at a young age, are buried in the same grave.

**Johann Friedrich Burghezzi** (Giovanni Federico Burghezzi) belonged to the Comunità evangelica di confessione elvetica (Swiss evangelical community) in Trieste. He was a provisional parish administrator who resigned in 1888 and, according to Umberto Bert,<sup>3</sup> died the following year in Smyrna. Bert is mistaken here: Burghezzi died in Saloniki and was buried in the Protestant cemetery on 25 February 1889. Unfortunately, his gravestone no longer exists.

---

<sup>3</sup> In Umberto Bert, *Il Protestantismo a Trieste*, 1979



**K 4**

**K 4**

**Aristides Michtsopoulos** (1874 - 1954) was one of the first pastors of the Greek Evangelical Church in Thessaloniki. Born and raised in what is now Turkey, he began his ministry as pastor of the local congregation in April 1903 after studying at the theological college in Merzifon<sup>4</sup>.

During the First World War, he opened his church to the Protestant soldiers of the French and English armies, who in gratitude built and donated to the Greek Evangelical Church a table for the celebration of the Eucharist , which is still preserved today .

As the German Protestant congregation in Thessaloniki no longer had its own pastor (from 1916) because of the war, he naturally took on the duties of a congregational pastor there too.

Since the German Protestant community in Thessaloniki no longer had a pastor of its own from 1916 onwards due to the war, Michitsopoulos also took over the duties of the community's pastor, as was only natural. In addition, during

---

<sup>4</sup>Merzifon is located south of the city of Samsun in the Black Sea region. The theological school was established by American Protestant missionaries in 1864. The work of the missionaries was primarily aimed at the Armenian population, but also at the Greek Orthodox. Merzon is also the home of Anatolia College.



his 50 years as pastor, he was a member of the administration of ΗΡΑΚΛΗ and participated in the founding of the YMCA(HANTH) and an orphanage in Veroia.



**Athanasios Katsarkas**, born in Adrianople in 1878, moved to Thessaloniki with his family (his wife Malama and his five children, all boys) in 1914.

As a former member of the Evangelical Church of Adrianople, he founded a "house church" in his home after his arrival in Thessaloniki, which existed until 1931. At that time, the church (which was joined by several other members) rented a hall on Pikou Street, which after a few years was named the "Church of Greek Protestants".

In 1946 the church was renamed "Free Protestant Church" and in 1968 moved to a private building at 42 Fleming Street. About twelve years ago, the church moved to a private building at 57 Poseidonos Street in Pylea, Thessaloniki, where it has been operating under the name "Evangelical Church of Thessaloniki, formerly Fleming" ever since.

The descendants of Athanasios Katsarkas are still among the leading members of the congregation today.



O 12

**Michail Tettos** was born in Ohrid in 1853 and died in Thessaloniki in 1920. At an early age he converted to the Evangelical faith by reading a Bible his father had acquired. He was a furrier by trade and served as an elder of the Greek Evangelical Church of Thessaloniki (EETH), which had been founded in 1865. In 1886 he married Anastasia Tettos (1860-1942) and they had five children of whom only two survived, Giannakos and Katina (1899-1989). Giannakos Tettos was secretary of the American Consulate and one of the founding members of the "Herakles" Gymnastics Club in 1908. Katina Tettos married Alexandros Kantartzis (1896-1942); they had four children, including Nikos Kantartzis (1924-2024), professor of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and Tasoula Kantartzis who was the wife of Stelios Kaloterakis, who served as pastor of the Hellenic National Library of Thessaloniki from 1953 to 1990.





R 7

### **Thomas Edward Rutledge 1833-1878**

He was the eldest son of Thomas and Augusta Rutledge. The family lived in Faringdon, Berkshire, England, where he was born, the eldest of 10 siblings.

His gravestone bears the following words:

"Surgeon of Southaw, Warwickshire died 5th May 1878 aged 43 years. The deceased was admitted to the Turkish Military Hospital during the Serbo-Turkish and Russo-Turkish wars and died out of devotion to humanity.

Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.  
Matthew 25:40"

## Diplomats



S 26

**Dr Konrad Bouterwek** (18.06.1855 - 07.05.1886) He was born in Wuppertal, the son of the German scholar and grammar school director Dr Karl Wilhelm Bouterwek. After studying law in Leipzig, Bonn, Freiburg and Göttingen, he entered the diplomatic service in 1879. Via Nice and Copenhagen, he came to Constantinople as vice-consul in 1883 and took over the newly founded independent consulate in Thessaloniki in 1885 as the first Imperial German Consul (until this time, Thessaloniki was represented from Constantinople).

On 26 October 1885, he married Helena Pangalo, the daughter of the merchant Jean Pangalos from Constantinople, in Constantinople. Her mother Elisabeth Pangalo, called Eliza, was the daughter of Charles Blunt, and the elder sister of George Stratford Blunt (see below), both of whom served as British consuls. On 7 May 1886 - just six months after taking up his post - Konrad Bouterwek died in Salonika. Barely 4 months after his death on 30 August 1886, his son Konrad was born. Helena Bouterwek left Salonika with her son and joined the household of some relatives of her deceased husband in Wiesbaden.



L 3

**Ulrich Ernst Friedrich Karl von Versen** (2.2.1861 - 15.12.1906) took over the consulate in 1903 from his predecessor Mordtmann, who had been transferred to Smyrna and had already left the city on 1 June 1902. He studied law in Freiburg and Leipzig and worked at the district court in Cöslin. After serving in the Prussian army, he joined the diplomatic corps and served successively in Constantinople, Cairo, Smyrna and Chania before taking over the consulate in Thessaloniki in 1903, where he died of malaria on 15 December 1906.

**George Stratford Blunt**, born 8 October 1845 in Thessaloniki, was the son of the English diplomat Charles Blunt (1800-1864), who was regarded as an agent of modernisation in the Ottoman provinces in his function as European consul. He served as consul in Adrianople, Salonika and Smyrna, where he died in 1864.

In 1893 his son George S. Blunt married Caroline Laffont, whose grave is in Thessaloniki's Catholic cemetery. Like his father, Blunt was active in the diplomatic service. In the 1880s and 90s, he was the English consul-general in Thessaloniki. He died in 1927 and was buried in the Protestant cemetery on 14 January.

Unfortunately, his gravestone no longer exists.





G 10

**Henry Chasseaud** (1796 - 1878) and his son **John Francis Chasseaud** (1837 - 1910), who are buried in a single grave, come from one of the most famous families in 19th century Salonika. They were Huguenots and originally came from France, probably from the St Nazaire region. The family coat of arms is a leaping stag on a mountain ridge with three stars above it.

Henry Chasseaud, who was consul of Naples in Salonika in 1847, was the son of Peter/Pierre Chasseaud (1761-1843), who served as Prussian consul in Salonika from 1824 until his death in 1843.

John F. Chasseaud was the manager of the Allatini mill and co-owner of the Banque de Salonique (also owned by the Allatini family). He is listed as a member of the Cercle de Salonique in 1887.

They were related to the Abbott and Charnaud families: Henry's mother was Mary Abbott and his wife was Marguerite Charnaud. Francis Charnaud was English consul in Salonika from 1792 to 1825. The most famous scion of the Abbott family was the German consul Henry Abbott, who was assassinated in Salonika on 6 May 1876 together with his brother-in-law, the French consul Jules Moulin. This event has gone down in history under the name "Η σφαγή των προξενων" ("the murder of the consuls") or "Salonica incident".

Bartholomew Edward Abbott (c.1739-1817) became a merchant in Salonika and married Sarah Anatary, widow of the French merchant in the Levant Gabriel Chasseaud. He was admitted to the Levant Company as a freeman and formed

business partnerships with his stepson Peter/Pierre Chasseaud (1761-1843), the father of Henry, mentioned above, and his son George Frederic Abbott (ca.1776-1852). Bartholomew is described by one of his contemporaries as the "father of the Levant Company in Salonika". He died on 18 March 1817 and his son George continued the family business. Two of George's sons, John and Robert Abbott, ran an export company from Salonika known as 'Abbott Brothers', which was the main exporter of a variety of products to London in the 1850s and 1860s, including Turkish tobacco and medicinal leeches.

## Military personnel



Q 5

**Kenneth Ballantine Drysdale** (1882 - 8 October 1899) was a midshipman<sup>5</sup> (cadet) on the *HMS Empress of India*, a warship that was part of the Royal Navy's Mediterranean Fleet. During his stay in Salonika he contracted typhoid fever and died on Sunday 8 October 1889 at the age of just 17. His comrades laid the gravestone for him.

---

<sup>5</sup> The name comes from the fact that the cadets had their cabins in the middle of the ship.



R 18

**Alfred Lovell Butt**, the eldest son of James Henry Butt (1844 - 1936), died in 1895 as an engineer on the depot ship *HMS VULCAN* in Salonika.

*HMS Vulcan* was a British torpedo boat depot ship that was launched in 1889 and converted into a submarine tender in 1908-09[1] As a training ship, she was renamed *HMS Defiance III* in 1931 and used for training in Torpoint, Cornwall. She was scrapped in Belgium in 1955.

The increasing number of torpedo boats entering service at the end of the 19th century required a specialised auxiliary ship. The *Vulcan* could carry six torpedo boats on her deck and had repair workshops and outfitting shops. She had an armoured deck and could function as a light cruiser.

The *Vulcan* was launched on 13 June 1889. Captain Henry Jackson was appointed in command in December 1899 when she served as a torpedo depot ship on the Mediterranean station.





S 17

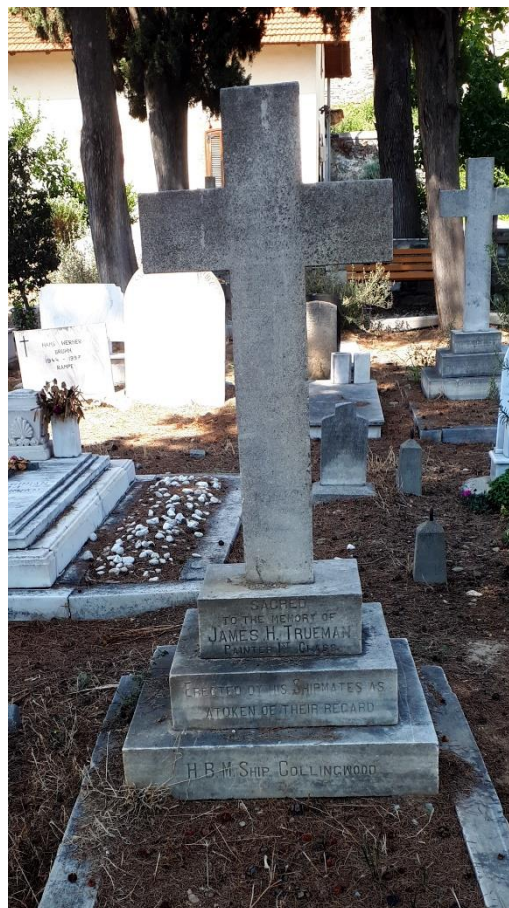
### **Arthur Frederick Alleyne Maycock**

Maycock was born on 25 June 1880 in Torquay, Torbay, England, and began his service in the Royal Navy on 22 June 1901 as a probationary assistant engineer on *HMS Rupert*, which was stationed in Gibraltar from 1895 and then in Port Said until the end of April 1902. During this time, she sailed throughout the Eastern Mediterranean, including to Salonika, where Maycock died of typhus (endemic fever) on 11 February 1902. His comrades erected the gravestone.



R 15

**John Pysden** 1858 -1879 Seaman *HMS Ruppert*, 21 years old



P 39

**James H Trueman**, ? – 21.1.1869 Painter 1st. class, *HMS Collingwood*



R 13

**Edwin Willot , ? – 15.1.1895 *HMS Nile***



Q 7

**Frank Boycott**, probably born in England in 1874, began his training in the Royal Navy at an early age. When he died in 1893, he was a midshipman (cadet) on the battleship *Inflexible*.

The *Inflexible* was an armoured, fully electrified warship that even had underwater torpedo tubes, but could also sail under canvas. Upon completion,



the ship was sent to the Mediterranean squadron and took part in the bombardment of Alexandria in 1882.

During one of the ship's stays in Salonika, Boycott contracted a fever, from which he died in 1893. He thus suffered the same sad fate as several other English cadets who also fell ill here, died and are buried in this cemetery. The gravestone was erected by his shipmates of the *Inflexible*.

However, the name Boycott should be mentioned for another reason. Charles Cunningham Boycott (1832-1897), very probably an uncle or great-uncle of Frank Boycott, was a British estate manager in Ireland and a captain in the British army. He is described as an evil abuser of men. As an Englishman, he was not accepted by the Irish farmers, whom he treated increasingly harshly. They refused to pay him rent or work for him. He had to bring in the harvest under the supervision of English soldiers and "duck helpers" from Northern Ireland, and was also placed under military protection himself. As a result, all tenants and farm labourers terminated their contracts. A resolution of the Irish Land League, founded in 1879, officially authorised them to avoid Boycott and not to do any business with him. Even the railway refused to transport his cattle at the time. The term "boycott" appears for the first time in this resolution, and in the form "boycotting" was first used in November 1880 by the London Times newspaper to describe this type of resistance.

## **Employees of the Oriental Railway**

At the end of the 1870s, Baron Hirsch's French railway company (Compagnie des Chemins de fer Orientaux, CO for short) became part of the Austrian operating company of the Oriental Railways based in Constantinople, which was responsible for developing the lines to and from Salonika.

This change from a French to an Austrian (German-speaking) company meant that more German, Austrian and Swiss engineers, civil servants, technicians and labourers were brought to Thessaloniki and Üskub (Skopie). A small railway workshop was established here, and the many German railway officials associated with it formed a large part of the Protestant community.

Due to the very unhealthy climatic conditions at the time and the related endemic or epidemic diseases (malaria, smallpox), many members of the railway workers' families died at a young age.

Only those whose gravestones are still preserved in the cemetery are listed here.



O 4

**Ludwig Hempel**, (27.05.1853 - 22.01.1896), from Vogtland, was a railway official and the first parishioner to be buried by Martin Braunschweig (the parish's first pastor). His descendants lived in the town until the Second World War. In 1942, Bernhard Hempel was still listed on the German Consulate's register of Germans resident in Thessaloniki, with a household of four.



T 11

**Wilhelm Schneider**, (22.05.1852 - 06.07.1911) was a locomotive driver on the Oriental Railway.



Q 17

**August Koch**, (28.07.1862 - 05.10.1899) was a railway official.



Q 4

**Rudolf Jesser** (06.02.1821 - 09.02.1896) was a traffic controller on the Oriental Railway.





S 6

**Ludwig Damerau**, (25.08.1846 - 09.09.1906) machinist with the Oriental Railway. His children Ludwig, Viktor, Martha and Adolf attended the German School. When French troops occupied the German facilities in 1916, his children Viktor and Martha were arrested and interned in Marseille. Viktor returned to Thessaloniki and later became First Secretary at the German Consulate. His family lived in Thessaloniki until the Second World War.



Q 18

**Georg Sörgel** (04.12.1842 - 11.01.1894) came from Fischbrunn, Bavaria. He was offered a job on the Oriental Railway at twice the usual salary and with the low

cost of living in Salonika he accepted and worked his way up to railway foreman. He also supplemented his income by lending money to his colleagues. He lived with his wife and three daughters in railway quarters, where he kept sheep, pigs, chickens and ducks.



O 14

**Georg Kalbfleisch**, (24.03.1865 - 01.06.1901) was a railway foreman and accountant on the railway.



P 20

**Paul Müller** (06.06.1903 - 09.04.1934) was the youngest son of Moritz Müller, born in Leipzig in 1857, an official of the Orient Railways. He survived malaria and, with a partner, ran a small transport company. He died of meningitis in

Salonika. His sister Anna, married name Vourou, became the centre of a large German/Greek family in Thessaloniki.



S 24

The Weiss family: **Johann Georg Weiss** (7.8.1838-13.6.1886), **Spiridon Weiss** (6.12.1866-22.12.1939) and **Josef Weiss** (6.5.1906-6.7.1988). These three are grandfather, son and grandson.

The progenitor of the Weiss family, the carpenter Michael Weiss (21 August 1804 - before 1858) emigrated from Bodersweier/Baden to the Ottoman Empire in 1849, apparently first to Smyrna and later to Constantinople. He was accompanied by his wife Katharina and their children Johann Michael, born 1831, Catharina, born 1833, Jakob, born 1836, Johann Georg, born 1838 (see above) and Maria Magdalena, born 1844, as well as his unmarried sister Elisabeth, born 1820.

The eldest son Johann Michael became an employee of the Oriental Railways, lived in Adrianople, and died in Constantinople in 1881.

The second son, Johann Georg, first went to Corfu, where he ran a brewery. There he married the Corfiot Marietta Savva. Their first three children were born here: Karl Johann in 1860, Emilie in 1863, and Spiridon in 1866. Around 1870, the family moved to Thessaloniki, where the father worked from then on as a foreman for the Oriental Railway. Their younger children were born in Salonika, Michael in 1875 and Anton (Antonios) in 1877. The father Johann Georg, his son Spiridon and grandson Josef were listed in the church register of the German Protestant community; the last, like his descendants today, belonged to the Greek Protestant community, Michael and Anton Weiss and



their descendants (today Greek Βαϊç) were baptised in the Greek Orthodox Church, to which their descendants living today also belong.



T 12

**Amelie Fernandez, née Müller (1833 - 1910)**

## Merchants



M 1

**John William Rudolf Campbell** was born in Hamburg on 21 September 1877. In 1904, he moved to Thessaloniki, where he took over the office of the Deutsche

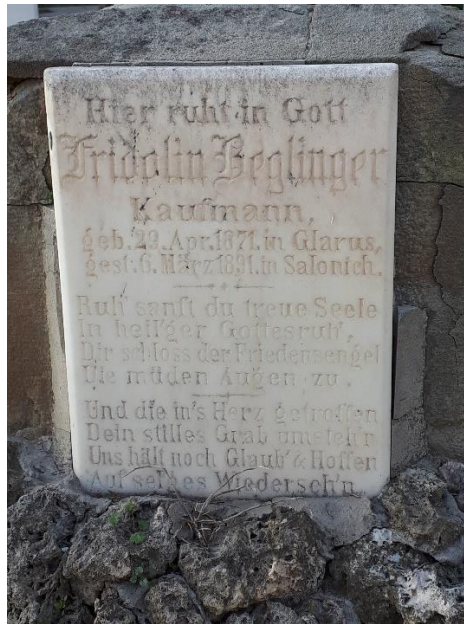
Levante Linie (DLL), which had been founded by his brother Charles in 1887. He developed it into one of the city's leading trading companies. His nephew Hans Heitmann managed it until 1944. John Campbell died as a result of a leaf disease on 31 October 1909.



S 14

**Otto Trümpler** was born on 1 June 1858 in Switzerland and was a founding member of the German Protestant congregation in Salonika.

He died on 30 April 1903 in an assassination attempt by the Bulgarian freedom fighters led by Jordan Popjordanov, in which the Ottoman Bank building was destroyed. The force of the explosion also caused parts of the Hotel Colombo and the neighbouring German Club to collapse. Trümpler was found robbed under the rubble the next day.



P 27

**Fridolin Beglinger**, (29/04/1871 - 06/03/1891) another Swiss merchant who, like Fridolin Jenny,<sup>6</sup> came from Glarus. Beglinger was only 20 years old.



Q 19

**Georg Heinrich Herren**, born on 7 June 1805 in Hamburg, died 23 September 1862 in Salonika

The inscription on his gravestone reads:

<sup>6</sup>Mr. Jenny was co-owner of the company Jenny&Vock. Both businessmen were among the co-founders of the German congregation and were on the board of the German church council for many years.



"A loyal German heart that found asylum and a new home in Switzerland after the May battles of 1849 (perhaps referring to the Dresden May Uprising from 3 to 9 May 1849). Lamented by his wife and 12 children."



S 19

**Johann Kill** (20.09.1850 - 21.11.1916) came from Oberboihingen in Württemberg and was a blacksmith. He had his workshop and home in the Allatini brickworks, located between the streets Italias (28th Oktovriou) and Markou Botsari, Delfon and Vas. Olgas. He died as a result of knee surgery.



O 5

**Christian Kill** (23.12.1853 - 29.01.1895). Christian, the brother of Johann Kill, was a baker, and thus a person of importance for the German-speaking people living here, as it meant that they finally had the bread they were used to from home. The German bakery existed at least until 1925.



P 41

**Friederike Kill** (12.11.1851 - 01.11.1882) was the wife of the baker Christian Kill.



Q 9

**Caroline Vittoria Routh**, née Wegener, born 23.2.1816 in Lambeth, London married Richard Routh (\*20.1.1809 in Constantinople +26.6.1867 in Vienna) on 15.2.1831.

In 1812, her father Samuel Wegener was secretary of the "Eastern Pharmacy Association for the Care of the Poor and for the Care of Pregnant Women at Home", founded in 1762.

She had 13 children, one of them August Routh, who, as manager of the Ottoman Bank at the time, also took over the Phoenix Insurance branch in Salonika in 1873. He was married to Alexandrine de Lusignan, a descendant of the first King of Cyprus, Guido de Lusignan. August Routh died on 9 January 1892 and is buried next to his mother in the Protestant cemetery.





#### Q 14

The educator **Martha Katharina Sophie Maulwurf** (October 13th, 1898 – February 8th, 1973) came from Feldkirchen near Munich. In 1930, she was invited to Serres to take care of the education of Dr. Georgios Georgiadis' children who had recently lost their German mother. Dr. Georgiadis had studied medicine in Munich and Greifswald and met and married the Munich Irma Reisinger during this time. After completing his studies, he and his wife returned to his home town Serres where he set up a clinic. Nevertheless, the education of his children was so important to him that he wanted a German governess for his children after the death of his wife. Through the mediation of his wife's family, Martha Maulwurf came to Greece. She remained at the family's side for the rest of her life and supported them in very difficult times. The cession (1941) of the territories of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace conquered by the German army to Bulgaria created the conditions for the enormous economic and physical oppression of the Greek population there. As a German, Martha saved the lives of her family members by helping to free the doctor from Bulgarian prisons and enabling the family to leave the Bulgarian-occupied territory. Later, after the doctor was murdered (1944) by the partisans of the Greek People's Liberation Army (Ελληνικός Λαϊκός Απελευθερωτικός Στρατός - Ε.Λ.Α.Σ.), she stood by his children and protected them. She stood up for people selflessly and without expecting or even demanding anything in return. After the Germans withdrew from Thessaloniki (October 30th, 1944) and the National Liberation Front (Εθνικό Απελευθερωτικό Μέτωπο - Ε.Α.Μ.) took power, Martha was imprisoned for several months in the "Pavlos Melas" barracks. She remained in Greece forever, died in Thessaloniki and was buried there in the Protestant cemetery.



H 1

### **Bertha Modiano, née Adam-Pritt (1875-1949)**

Bertha, a German, was married to Dario Modiano (1873-1938), only son of Daniel Modiano (1801-1872) and his wife Regina Arditti (1818-1890). Although disabled (the nature of his disability is not known), Dario became a well-known lawyer. The rest of the family was not particularly enthusiastic about his marriage to the German Bertha Adam-Pritt and they tended to avoid him, especially after Hitler came to power in Germany.

Her son Elio, who became a successful businessman in Athens, rejected this attitude and minimised his contacts with the rest of the family. Elio, a tall and handsome gentleman, married Vassiliki Zapanti. They had a daughter, Nicole, who married and took over her father's medical equipment import business in Athens. Elio died in 1985 at the age of 83. His sister Anne married Scialom Pessah, a dentist in Thessaloniki.



J 4

**Baja Benedek** (1893-1953), was a Hungarian graphic artist, painter, stage and costume designer who was mainly active between the two world wars.

He studied in France and Germany; after WW1 he was taken prisoner of war in Russia, where he designed stage sets for the Irkutsk Opera; he returned to Moscow via China and only returned to Hungary in 1922. He worked on stage designs for many theatres in Budapest. His poster designs belong to the Art Deco style of the 1920s and 1930s. They contain elements of modernism and folk art; most of them are very decorative. He died on 27 June 1953 in Thessaloniki.

## Children's graves

The graves of children occupy a special place. Experiencing the death of one's own beloved child is always a terrible event. The opportunity to mourn at their grave is very important for the parents. It is particularly painful to leave these graves behind when they have had to return home or move elsewhere for professional or other reasons. These graves often have particularly beautiful gravestones.





P 30

**Paula Josephine Vock** (17 January 1884 - 19 March 1890) was the elder daughter of the merchant and church founder Emil Vock.<sup>7</sup> She died as a result of meningitis, which the family at the time attributed to the girl's "early mental exertion". She was able to embroider on canvas at the age of 4 and went to school at the age of 5. In order not to make this "mistake" again, the younger daughter Else only started school at the age of 7. Her gravestone was originally adorned with a large white angel.

---

<sup>7</sup>Mr. Emil Vock was co-owner of the Jenny&Vock company. Both businessmen were among the co-founders of the German congregation and were on the board of the church council for many years.



K 10, S 20

The Kill families were hit particularly hard

After the death of his first wife Friederike on 11 November 1882, master baker Christian Kill married her niece Klara in Salonika. Of their 6 children, the eldest died in infancy.

The twins **Robert and Ernst Kill** were born on 19 February 1883.

Robert died on 11 August 1884, his brother Ernst on 31 October 1884.

**Ernestine Kill** (1884 - 1886) was born a year after the twins and died on 16 February 1886

The three children have a common grave.

The blacksmith Johann Kill and his wife Regina also had to bury three of their children early.

**Johann Heinrich Kill**, born on 12 January 1907, died of whooping cough at the age of 2

**Gottfried Kill**, 20 October 1909, was born prematurely and died after only 8 days.

His father Johann did not live to see the death of his daughter **Katharina Kill** (29 July 1902 - 3 July 1917).

Fridolin Jenny writes in his diary:

"On the afternoon of 3 July 1917, Mr Henri Calderon brings me the sad news on behalf of the widow Joh. Kill that her 15-year-old daughter Kati died this morning. The poor girl, whom I spoke to 8 days ago on Sunday, is said to have died of blood poisoning. Apparently the child was only ill for 3 or 4 days. Son Fritz went with Mr Calderon to the American consulate. Consulate with Mr Calderon to obtain permission for the burial site and then to inform the cemetery gardener. Son Heinrich went to Father Cooper about the parish service.

Mr G. Fedi has ordered the hearse for tomorrow at 10 o'clock. The few Germans and Austrians will be informed if possible.

The funeral took place on 4 July with a good turnout. Everyone from the German and Austrian colonies was there. Then the entire Alex Neri family, Mrs Artin, the neighbours Francois Schmidt and Mrs were very nice to Mrs Kill as always. Then there were also various people from the brickworks who I don't know by name. Mr Cooper conducted the service in a dignified manner, as he did with Father Kill."





P 12

**Luise Ariadne Jolas** (08.01.1891 - 21.06.1895). She was the second child of the Oriental Railway engineer and church founder Ludwig Jolas.



G 2

**Adrian Gordon George Monck-Mason** (1915-1916) was only 8 months old. He died shortly after his parents arrived in Salonika.

Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore GCMG, KStJ (1887-1964), was British Governor of Sierra Leone, Kenya and Ceylon.

The son of Rev Edward William Moore, he was educated at Rokeby Preparatory School, King's College School, Wimbledon and Jesus College, Cambridge in 1909. During the First World War he was a lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery in Salonika from 1915-1919.



P 18

**Friedrich Wolfgang Schlubach** was born in Bochum on 5 March 1926, the son of the designer and foreman Friedrich Karl Josef Schlubach. The boy died of diphtheria on 17 August 1931, just a few months after the family arrived in Salonika. His father came from Hagen/Westphalia and was a trained wireman. He worked freelance for various companies throughout Germany in order to set up new production facilities. Around 1931, he received an order from a Jewish factory owner in Thessaloniki to set up a wire-drawing factory there. During the family's stay in Salonika, the twins Ulrich and Rosa were born in the Baron Hirsch Hospital. After Friedrich K.J. Schlubach completed the factory at the end of 1933, the family left Salonika and lived in Berlin from then on.



K 8

**Hugo Schnell**, born on 4.8.1881 died on 28.6.1883

We still lack information here.



K 15

**Carl Heinrich Largen**, born 11.10.1873, died 12.7.1874

We still lack information here





R 1

**Dora Struck 1875- 24 Aug. 1880**

Presumably born in Constantinople, daughter of the doctor Hermann August Struck and thus sister of the archaeologist Adolf Hermann Struck (1877-1911). Her father served in the Ottoman army. Originally from Pirmasens, he lived in various cities of the Ottoman Empire (Constantinople, Volos and Thessaloniki). Three more children of the family were born here, whose baptisms are recorded in the church register of the German Protestant community. The family lived in the district of Tschair.<sup>8</sup>

**People who shaped the image of the city of Thessaloniki after the Second World War**

---

<sup>8</sup> on the west side of the city, outside the walls



P 2

**Vera Papailiakis**, née Freiin von Stein (15 October 1887 - 14 June 1964)

The younger (by 15 years) sister of Etty Hadji-Lazaro, she was born on 15 October 1887 in Völkershausen. Vera visited her sister in Salonika for the first time in 1910 and immediately fell in love with the city. - At Queen Olga's request, she came as a nurse's assistant during the Balkan Wars and provided nursing care in the hospitals, which was highly appreciated by doctors and patients and for which she received a medal from the Greek Queen.

After training as a nurse and studying economics, she met the Greek lawyer Dr Georgios M. Papailiakis while visiting her sister in Thessaloniki and married him in Vienna in 1933.

During the occupation by Nazi Germany, she was instrumental in the rescue of 19 German-Greek half-Jewish families. Rudolph Amariglio, the son of one of the rescued families, writes in "Forty Years of Holiday" (2004), a book about German-speaking migrants, that his Jewish father found work with the lawyer Georgios M. Papailiakis (Vera Papailiakis' husband) through the mediation of his Protestant mother's friend (i.e. Vera Papailiakis). "This work was to save our lives and those of eighteen other families. My father made himself

indispensable as a translator in war trials, so the German commander Merten issued a special law especially for him. This decree exempted nineteen Jews who were married to Christians and their families from the anti-Semitic measures." This was also confirmed in 2018 by the now 97-year-old brother Alexander Amari(g)lio. There was no such law in any of the other territories occupied by the Nazis.

After the Second World War, she became involved in the community and the Red Cross, for which she was awarded the Order of the Red Cross by the Greek Minister of the Interior Stratos on 28 October 1954.



P 3

### **Kurt Count von Posadowsky-Wehner (09 October 1903 - 13 March 1996)**

"The Count" or "our Count", as he was later affectionately known, was a cosmopolitan in the best sense of the word. After first studying law, he also studied Romance languages and literature, German studies and art history. In 1935, he joined the German Academy (Academy for the Scientific Study and Cultivation of German Abroad), from which the Goethe-Institut emerged after the Second World War.

It was also he who was commissioned to set up a second Goethe-Institut in Greece in Thessaloniki in 1955, where he remained as director until 1968.



The following year he oversaw the reconstruction of the German School of Thessaloniki (DST). He was a member of the school board for 20 years.

In the last 20 years of his life, the German Evangelical Church was the place where he was able to continue his work: He was elected to the parish church council and was its chairman for many years.



**Gerhard Prokop** was born on 18 May 1939 in Gladbeck, North Rhine-Westphalia, and was a football player and coach. He played as a goalkeeper for Alemannia Aachen in the Bundesliga, Bundesliga 2 and Regionalliga West from 1963 to 1976. Gerhard Prokop played 53 Bundesliga games, 17 in the 2nd Bundesliga North and 129 games in the Regionalliga West.

He ended his active career in 1976 and worked as a coach from then on. From the early 1980s, he lived in Greece and coached Greek teams exclusively, including Aris Thessaloniki and Apollon Kalamaria, finally retiring from the field in 1998.

He died on 23 January 2002.



Since the funeral of Rev. Maynard on 14 September 1849, almost 700 people have been laid to rest in just under 200 years. There are no traces of most of them left in the cemetery.

If relatives of the deceased go back to their home countries, or if there is no one left in Thessaloniki to look after the graves, they are reburied after 20 years.

The headstones of such graves were removed and often reworked and re-inscribed so that they could be used again. Gravestones and slabs were expensive. Simple wooden crosses will have stood on the graves of poorer people. During the First World War, a number of graves were destroyed and gravestones were removed that have not been found to this day.

Over the years storms and the associated torrential floods have repeatedly caused the boundary wall to the adjacent Armenian cemetery to collapse, resulting in damage and destruction of the graves in this part of the cemetery.

The inscriptions on the remaining gravestones always express the same wish for a gentle and eternal rest in God and a reunion in God's kingdom.

*"An angel reached out his hand to you and led you to a better land"* : Inscription on the grave of little Luise Jolas!

We echo the inscription on Fridolin Beglinger's grave.

*"Rest gently, you faithful soul, in God's holy rest,*

*The angel of peace closed your weary eyes.*

*And those in your heart surround your silent grave,*

*We still have faith and hope for a happy reunion."*

Text and fotos: Ingrid Ripka

09.05.2024

Address: Zografou 3

Thessaloniki 54634

Opening hours:

Tuesday - Friday

17:00 - 19:30 (summer)

15:30 - 17:30 (winter)

Saturday: 9:30 - 12:00