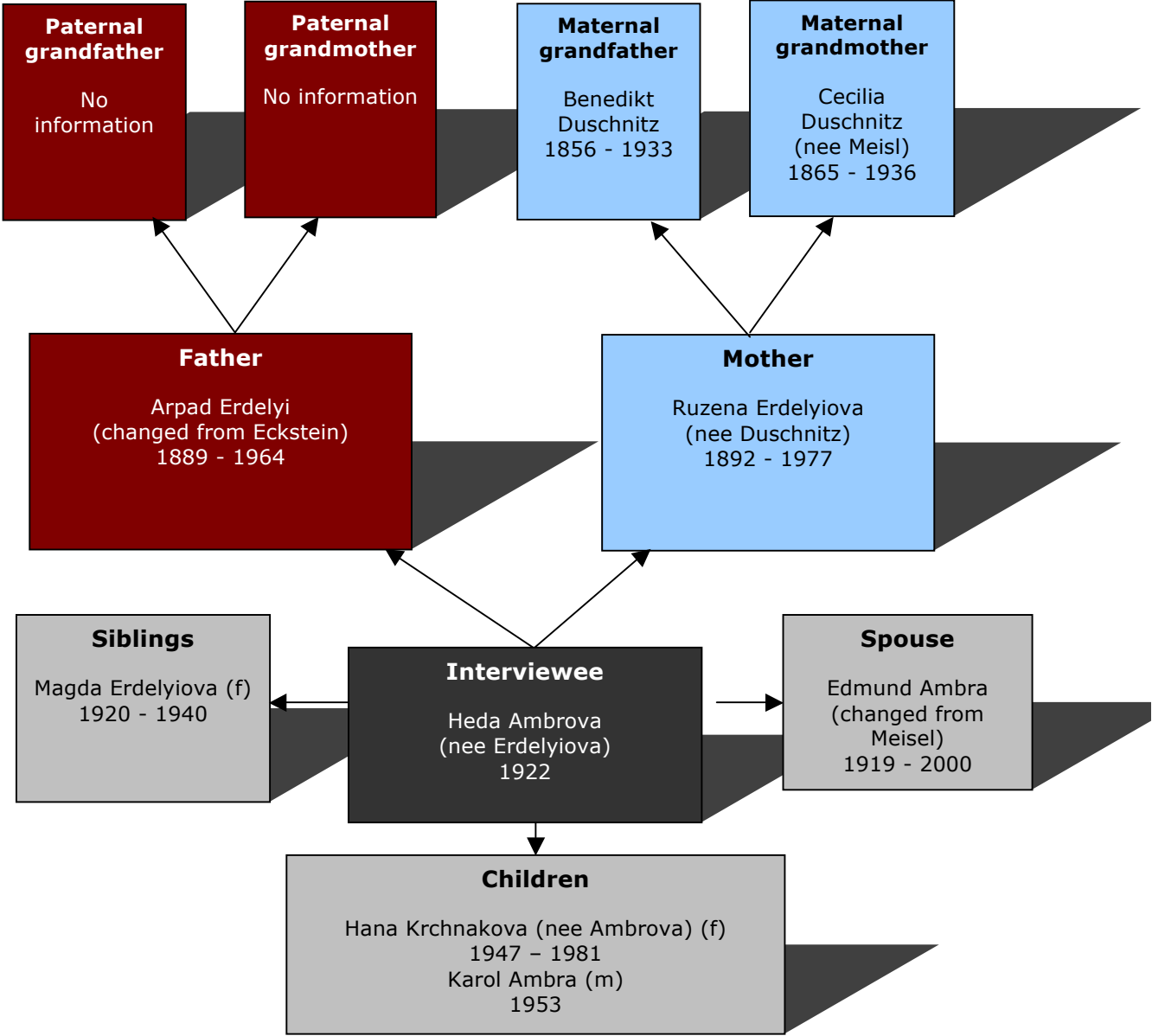


Family Tree



The interviewee and his family

Full name

Heda Ambrova (Hechtova in first marriage) (nee Erdelyiova)

Where and when were you born?

Piestany, 12th September 1922

Where else did you live?

-

Your educational level?

Completed high school in Nove Mesto nad Vahom

What sort of work do/did you do?

After the war I began studying pharmacy, but my back was bothering me. In Prague they told me that I had to change my occupation. I turned to a friend who was a doctor, and he recommended me to a specialist. His advice was for me to change my occupation. Finally I found a job in a company that needed someone that knew foreign languages. In time I became manager of the entire department. I was in charge of ten women. Our department was named the study department. Our work was sorting information from all over the world. We used to get about a hundred different foreign magazines, German, French, Russian ones. I informed upper management as to what was going on in the world. We of course monitored information only in certain fields, like mechanical engineering and healthcare.

How religious was your parents' home? How were you raised?

My favorite holidays were mainly those when we didn't have to go to synagogue. For Chanukkah we'd light candles each day. We also sang. We didn't give gifts, perhaps only sweets. In the spring there was Tu bi-Shevat, of fifteen fruits. At that time you had to collect fifteen types of fruit. Then there was Passover, but we didn't change dishes. We didn't observe holidays very much from a religious standpoint. My father held seder, and I know that we'd begin with the Haggadah. That was still during the years I was attending elementary school. We'd say the

mah nishtanah, and as the youngest I'd ask the questions. For Sukkot only Orthodox Jews would build a sukkah. Those that didn't have a yard, on their balcony. We used to make decorations from shiny paper, and stars as well. Then there was of course Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

What is your mother tongue?

We were born into a bilingual German-Slovak-speaking family.

What other languages do you speak?

Hungarian, French, English

If you were in an army, tell us which army and the dates

-

Where were you during the Holocaust?

Exemption: Michalovce, 1942 – 1944

In hiding: Polhora, 1944

In hiding: near Motycky, 1944 - 1945

What did you do after the Holocaust?

After the war I got married and started a family.

Siblings

Their names

Magda Erdelyiova (f)

Where and when were they born?

Piestany, 16th May 1920

What is their mother tongue?

Slovak and German

Their educational level?

She studied piano at a conservatory in Prague. In 1939 they threw her out due to her being Jewish.

Their occupations?

-

Where do/did they live?

-

Where else did they live?

-

Do they have children?

No

Where and when did they die?

Piestany, 26th December 1940 (of meningitis)

Spouse

Name?

Edmund Ambra (changed from Meisel)

Where and when was he/she born?

Presov, 20th November 1919

Where else did he/she live?

Brno (today Czech Republic)

Piestany

Is he/she Jewish?

Yes

What is his/her mother tongue?

Slovak

His/her educational level?

University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Faculty of Pharmacy

Occupation?

Pharmacist

Where and when did he/she die?

Piestany, 25th November 2000

Tell me anything you know about his/her siblings (Name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, name of wife and children, whether their family is Jewish and whether it is religious).

My husband was one of nine children. During the Holocaust they murdered five of them. The following survived:

- Barbora Wiener (nee Meisel) (f), died in Antwerp (Belgium) at the age of 90 around 2005
- Imrich Ambra (changed from Meisel) (m), died around 1980, buried at the Jewish cemetery in Piestany
- Zoli Meisel (m), lived in Presov. After World War II he moved to Israel, where he died.

Children

Their names?

Hana Krchnakova (nee Ambrova) (f)

Karol Ambra (m)

Were they raised Jewish/do they identify themselves as Jews?

No information

Where and when were they born?

Hana: Piestany, 1947 (died in 1981 in Antwerp, Belgium)

Karol: Piestany, 1953

Where else did they live?

Hana: Prague (today Czech Republic)

Karol: Piestany

Their educational level?

Hana: Graduated from biochemistry at university in Brno with a PhD in science

Karol: Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Economics

Their occupations?

Hana: -

Karol: businessman

How many grandchildren do you have?

Hana: Viktor (m), 1981, biochemist

Karol: Zuzana (f), 1977, economist; Hana (f), 1982, student

Father

His name?

Arpad Erdelyi (changed from Eckstein when he was in high school)

Where and when was he born?

Tvrdosin, 22nd December 1889

Where else did he live?

Budapest (today Hungary)

Ruzomberok

Piestany

Where and when did he die?

Piestany, 1st March 1964

What sort of education did he have?

Graduated from pharmacy at university in Budapest

What sort of work did he do?

Pharmacist

How religious was he?

Observed the High Holidays

What was his mother tongue?

Slovak and German

Army service: which army and what years?

Austro-Hungarian army in WWI

Tell me about his brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

My father had two sisters. One was named Vilma. She was murdered during the Holocaust. I don't know anything about the other one.

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Ghetto: Zilina

Exemption: Batovce

In hiding: Polhora

In hiding: near Motycky

If he survived, what did he do after?

After the war he worked in a pharmacy.

Paternal grandfather

Your paternal grandfather's name?

No information

Paternal grandmother

Your paternal grandmother's name?

No information

Mother

Her name?

Ruzena Erdelyiova (nee Duschnitz)

Where and when was she born?

Slanica, 2nd November 1892

Where else did she live?

Piestany

Where and when did she die?

Piestany, 3rd July 1977

What sort of education did she have?

Graduated from pharmacy at university in Budapest (today Hungary)

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

How religious was she?

In our family we observed only the High Holidays.

What was her mother tongue?

Slovak and German

Tell me about her brothers and sisters.

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
Anna Diamant (nee Duschnitz) (f)	Slanica, 1882 - died in the Holocaust	Housewife	Leopold Diamant, owned a malt plant in Trnava, died in the Holocaust	Fritzi Gotfried (nee Diamant) (f), immigrated to the USA at the end of the 1930s	Neolog
Malvin Kürti (nee Duschnitz) (f)	Slanica, ? - Lived to the age of 89. Is buried at the Jewish cemetery in Banska Bystrica	Owned a sporting goods store	Dr. Artur Kürti, doctor died in 1915 of tuberculosis,	Alexander (m), Ruzomberok, 1904 - USA, 1999 Vojtech (m), Ruzomberok , 24 th April 1907 - Banska Bystrica, 1989 Karol (m), Ruzomberok, 21 st May 1914 - Kozarovce, June 1945	Neolog
Bertalan (Berci) Duschnitz (m)	?,? - Gyöngyös or Budapest (today Hungary), 1970s	Owned a vineyard	Györgyi Duschnitz (nee ?), died in the Holocaust	Elemér (m), died in the Holocaust Name unknown (m), survived	Neolog
Elza Lakatos (nee Duschnitz) (f)	Slanica, 1885 - Chust (today Ukraine), 1940s	Housewife	Dr. Imre Lakatos, doctor. Died in Chust in the 1940s	None	Neolog
Robert Duschnitz (m)	Lived in Vienna (today Austria), died in the Holocaust	Banker	Liesl Duschnitz (nee ?), died in the Holocaust	Zuzana (f), died after WWII in Great Britain	Neolog
Ernö Duschnitz (m)	Died near Melk (today Austria) in WWII	Economist	Stefania Duschnitz (nee Roth), died in WWII	Juraj (m) born in 1918 or 1919 (from wife's first marriage)	Neolog
Leona Porges	Murdered in	Housewife	Max Porges	Edit Bock (nee	Neolog

(nee Duschnitz) (f)	1944 near Turcianske Teplice			Porges) (f), died in the Holocaust Artur (m), born 11 th November 1922	
Frida Dezider (nee Duschnitz) (f)	Died after WWII	Housewife	Sigmund Dezider, died in the Holocaust	Zsuzsanna Meyer (nee Dezider) (f), born in 1923 Jakob (m)	Neolog
Jenö Duschnitz (m)	Died of typhus after being liberated from a concentration camp, in November 1945	Was in the wood business	No information	Vera (f)	Neolog

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Ghetto: Zilina

Exemption: Batovce

In hiding: Polhora

In hiding: near Motycky

If she survived, what did she do after?

After the war she took care of the household and helped take care of my children.

Maternal grandfather

Your maternal grandfather's name?

Benedikt Duschnitz

Where and when was he born?

Dolny Kubin, 1856

Where else did he live?

Slanica

Ruzomberok

Where and when did he die?

Ruzomberok, 16th August 1933

What sort of education did he have?

No information

What sort of work did he do?

My grandfather owned a button factory and a distillery. Otherwise he was a builder. During the time of World War I he designed buildings.

How religious was he?

The Jewish community in Ruzomberok was very liberal. My mother's family for example didn't observe kosher food practices.

What was his mother tongue?

No information

Army service: which army and what years?

No information

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Maternal grandmother

Your maternal grandmother's name?

Cecilia Duschnitz (nee Meisl)

Where and when was she born?

Podbiel or Namestovo, 1865

Where else did she live?

Slanica

Ruzomberok

Where and when did she die?

Ruzomberok, 2nd November 1936

What sort of education did she have?

No information

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

How religious was she?

The Jewish community in Ruzomberok was very liberal. My mother's family for example didn't observe kosher food practices.

What was her mother tongue?

No information

Tell me about her brothers and sisters.

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before