

Ruzena Deutschova



This picture was taken of me in Galanta in 1946, in the courtyard of Rabbi Seidl.

In Galanta, we ate in a communal kitchen [cafeteria]. The cook, Elemer Eckstein left for Palestine. We went there to eat. They demolished the kitchen since then, it was also on Main street. They opened another kitchen later in the courtyard of Rabbi Buxbaum. Rabbi Buxbaum was a victim of the Holocaust. I worked as an assistant cook there. Two of us cooked, but we went to help the work brigade also. The kitchen was maintained by the Joint [Joint (American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee)], they funded it. We even got clothes there. The head cook, Mrs. Wollner, Sarika [from Sarolta], grabbed the goose liver and took it home, but I didn't let her. One time, a five liter jar full of goose liver. She wanted to take it, but it fell and the jar broke. I said, 'Thank god, we're going to eat.' I never took food home, I gave it all to the young men and women. Mrs. Wollner was jealous of me, because the boarders yelled that I should cook and serve, because I gave them more generous portions. They really loved me, since I gave everyone the same sized portions. I think it was rather, that I didn't look anyone in the eye, so I couldn't even make distinctions among them. Many came there to eat. The kitchen was still working in 1946. I think it closed in 1947.