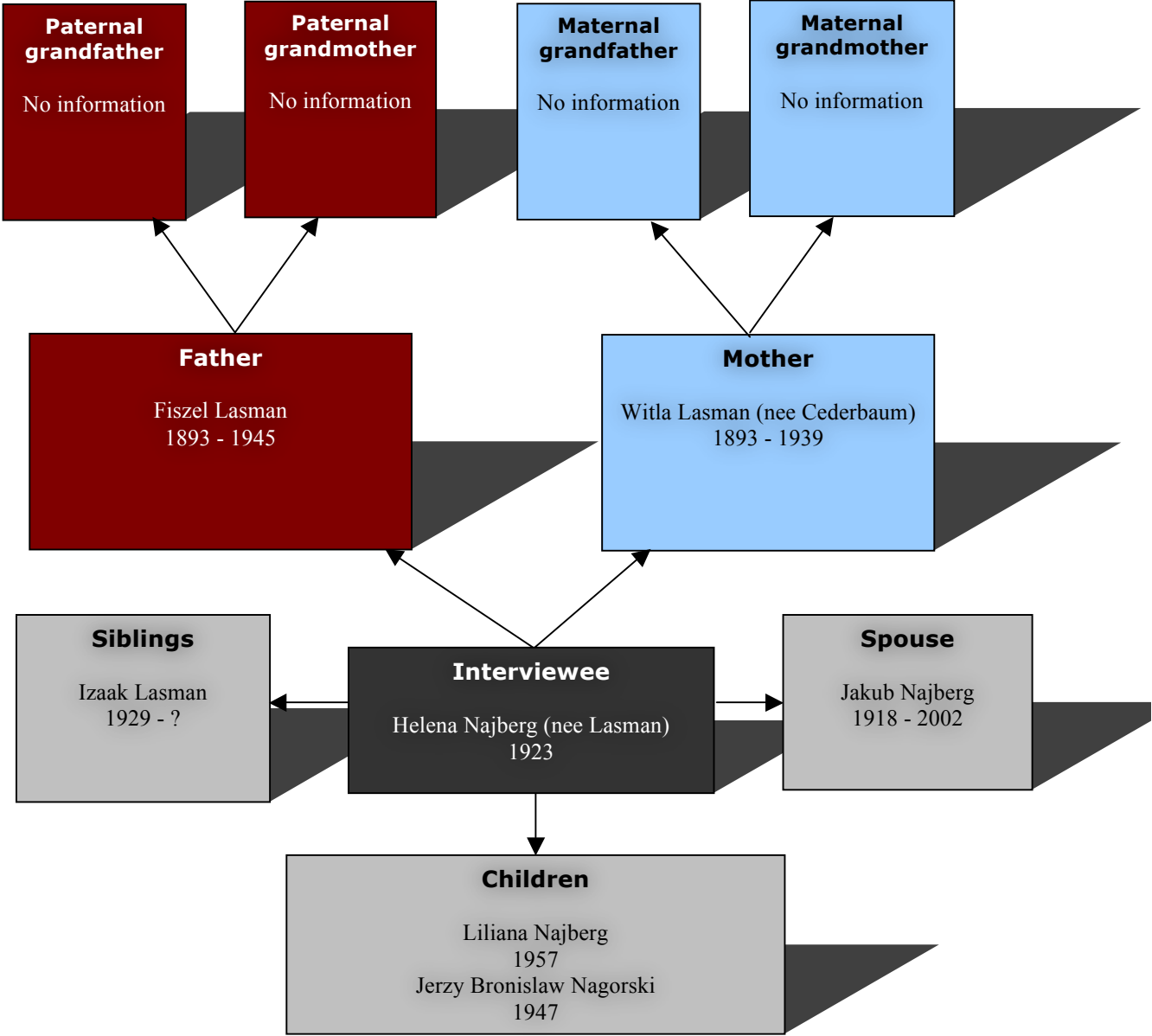


**Family Tree**



## The interviewee and his family

### *Full name*

Helena Najberg (Jewish name: Chaja) (f)

### *Where and when were you born?*

Lodz, 5<sup>th</sup> March 1923

### *Where else did you live?*

-

### *Your educational level?*

Elementary school

Secondary school: Josef Ab's gymnasium in Lodz

### *What sort of work do/did you do?*

Before WWII: -

After WWII: typist, secretary

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

Our house was not a typical Jewish house. Parents only went to the synagogue once a year, for Judgment Day. That was the only time it was so traditional. They never took us, children. It was done more for the sake of the family. So they followed this tradition, so we had contact with it, we knew what those customs were. Parents also spoke Yiddish to each other at home. They did it mostly when they didn't want my brother and me to understand. There were some special meals for the holidays. But for example on Easter [Pesach], Jews shouldn't eat bread and we ate both matsah and bread, so the rules weren't observed. Parents didn't practice [religion], but they observed some rules. For example they never ate non-kosher meat and cold cuts, sometimes they'd only buy it for us, but other than that, they'd only eat kosher. But my mother didn't kosher the dishes. And she didn't light candles on Friday. Fridays and Saturdays were not special days. Well, Father didn't go to work on Saturday, but I can't say how we spent that time. But I remember that I took part in the Purim holiday. In additions to Jewish holidays, we also celebrated Christmas. There were presents, I don't remember a Christmas tree, but I am sure there were presents.

*What is your mother tongue?*

Polish

*How many other languages do you speak?*

English, German

*Where were you during the Holocaust?*

Ghetto: Lodz, May 1940 – August 1944

Concentration camp: Auschwitz, August 1944 – November 1944

Slave labor: Oederan (today: Germany), November 1944 – April 1945

Slave labor: Terezin (today: Czech Republic), April 1945

*What did you do after the Holocaust?*

I worked as a secretary at the Voivodship [District] Militia Headquarters.

## Siblings

*Their names*

Izaak Lasman (m)

*Where and when were they born?*

Lodz, 19<sup>th</sup> November 1929

*What is their mother tongue?*

Polish

*Their educational level?*

Elementary school

Secondary school: Kacnelson gymnasium in Lodz

*Their occupations?*

-

*Where do/did they live?*

Lodz

*Where else did they live?*

-

*Do they have children?*

-

*Where and when did they die?*

Auschwitz, date unknown

## **Spouse**

*Name?*

Jakub Najberg (Jewish name: Jankiel Mojsze) (m)

*Where and when was he/she born?*

Kielce, 1918

*Where else did he/she live?*

Lodz

*Is he/she Jewish?*

Yes

*What is his/her mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*His/her educational level?*

Elementary school

Secondary school

*Occupation?*

Warehouse worker

*Where and when did he/she die?*

Lodz, 2002

*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 used to tell me about his family, but I don't remember everything. I only know he had 4 brothers and 1 sister. The oldest brother died of stomach problems, before the war, I think it was in 1936. I don't remember his name. Then there were Joe, David and Irving. They all lived in Canada. Joe left before the war and the two others shortly after. Joe died several years ago, I don't know what of. David died last year. I even went to his funeral. Irving is still alive, he's 96 years old, but he's very weak. The sister died a long time ago, during the war, I think.

## Children

*Their names?*

Liliana Najberg (f)

Jerzy Bronislaw Nagorski (changed from Najberg in 1970 because of assimilation)  
(m)

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

Our children knew who they were, they knew of their parents' past, they knew about Jewish customs, tradition. We told them about it, my husband more than me. Especially my son would listen with his mouth open when my husband told those stories. But we didn't even take them to the synagogue. Well, when my daughter moved to Canada she'd go to the synagogue sometimes. When I visited, we'd go together. But we could never stand those sermons. I never celebrated any Jewish festivals with my children. My children knew there was a holiday, because there'd be matzah at home, but there'd always be bread next to the matzah. But we always celebrated non-Jewish holidays. There was always Christmas, a Christmas tree, presents, like in every Polish house.

*Where and when were they born?*

Liliana: Lodz, 27<sup>th</sup> August 1957

Jerzy: Lodz, 19<sup>th</sup> July 1947

*Where else did they live?*

Liliana: Toronto (Canada)

Jerzy: Washington (USA)

*Their educational level?*

Liliana: elementary school, high school, studied Applied Mathematics at the Lodz Technical University

Jerzy: elementary school, high school, graduated from the Faculty of Electricity of Polytechnic in Lodz

*Their occupations?*

Liliana: -

Jerzy: Manager

*How many grandchildren do you have?*

Liliana: none

Jerzy: Agnieszka (f), born in Lodz, 27<sup>th</sup> March 1973

## Father

*His name?*

Fizel Lasman

*Where and when was he born?*

Zychlin, 1893

*Where else did he live?*

Lodz

*Where and when did he die?*

Mauthausen, 25<sup>th</sup> April 1945

*What sort of education did he have?*

No information

*What sort of work did he do?*

Accountant

*How religious was he?*

My father was raised in a rather orthodox family, but he wasn't orthodox himself. He must have gone to cheder, but I don't know exactly. My parents somehow never talked about the past and I never asked. He dressed European style. He always looked decent, I can't say his clothing was very sophisticated, but he was always clean shaven and decently dressed. He didn't wear any sidelocks. He didn't pray at home. He belonged to a party, it was Bund. But he never said anything about this. I don't think that he was very involved in the activities of that organization. Our house was not a typical Jewish house. Parents only went to the synagogue once a year, for Judgment Day. That was the only time it was so traditional. Parents would fast all day long, go to the synagogue in the morning and come back in the evening. They never took us, children. After they got back, we'd all eat dinner and that's all I know about this holiday. It was done more for the sake of the family. Because both families, from Mother's side and from



Father's side were very pious. If parents wouldn't have come, it would have been a tragedy. So they followed this tradition, so we had contact with it, we knew what those customs were. Parents also spoke Yiddish to each other at home. They did it mostly when they didn't want my brother and me to understand. That's why I knew Jewish [Yiddish], but only enough to somehow communicate.

*What was his mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Army service: which army and what years?*

No information

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

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	attitude to Jewish traditions
Iska Cytryn (nee Lasman) (f)	No information	No information	No information	No information	She was an Orthodox Jew, observed the Jewish traditions, followed the kashrut, and regularly went to the synagogue on Sabbath and the high holidays.

*Where was he during the Holocaust?*

Ghetto, Lodz

Concentration camp, Auschwitz

Concentration camp, Mauthausen

*If he survived, what did he do after?*

Died in Mauthausen

## Paternal grandfather

*Your paternal grandfather's name?*

No information

## Paternal grandmother

*Your paternal grandmother's name?*

No information

## Mother

*Her name?*

Wiktoría Lasman (nee Cederbaum) (Jewish name: Witla)

*Where and when was she born?*

Lodz, 1893

*Where else did she live?*

-

*Where and when did she die?*

Auschwitz, 1944

*What sort of education did she have?*

Educated at home

*What sort of work did she do?*

Housewife

*How religious was she?*

My mother came from an orthodox family, but she wasn't orthodox herself. Our house was not a typical Jewish house. Parents only went to the synagogue once a year, for Judgment Day. That was the only time it was so traditional. They never took us, children. After they got back, we'd all eat dinner and that's all I know about this holiday. It was done more for the sake of the family. It was done more for the sake of the family. Because both families, from Mother's side and from Father's side were very pious. So they followed this tradition, so we had contact with it, we knew what those customs were. Parents also spoke Yiddish to each other at home. They did it mostly when they didn't want my brother and me to understand. There were some special meals for the holidays. But for example on Easter [Pesach], Jews shouldn't eat bread and we ate both matsah and bread, so the rules weren't observed. Parents didn't practice [religion], but they observed some rules. For example they never ate non-kosher meat and cold cuts, sometimes they'd only buy it for us, but other than that, they'd only eat kosher. But my mother didn't kosher the dishes. And she didn't light candles on Friday. Fridays and Saturdays were not special days. Well, Father didn't go to work on Saturday. In additions to Jewish holidays, we also celebrated Christmas. There were presents, I don't remember a Christmas tree, but I am sure there were

presents. I don't remember the other holidays.

*What was her mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters.*

Name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	attitude to Jewish traditions
Leon Cederbaum (m)	No information	No information	No information	No information	He was an Orthodox Jew, observed the Jewish traditions, followed the kashrut, and regularly went to the synagogue on Sabbath and the high holidays.
Juliusz Cederbaum (m)	No information	No information	No information	No information	He was an Orthodox Jew, observed the Jewish traditions, followed the kashrut, and regularly went to the synagogue on Sabbath and the high holidays.

*Where was she during the Holocaust?*

Ghetto, Lodz

Concentration camp, Auschwitz

*If she survived, what did she do after?*

Perished in Auschwitz

## Maternal grandfather

*Your maternal grandfather's name?*

No information

## Maternal grandmother

*Your maternal grandmother's name?*

No information