

Trina Kuttner, an aunt of Simon Kahn, who had moved from the small village of Memmelsdorf in Lower Franconia to Munich had lived in her nephew's house in Apfelallee in Obermenzing from January 30, 1939 until October 10, 1941. From there she writes a letter to her relatives in New York. As some kind of family-head she tries to keep contact with her relatives abroad.

The letter reflects her distress about the complete isolation in an alien environment, the grim outlook for her future and her dreams about a reunion with those relatives and friends in a free America, a country where she had spent many years as a young woman.

#### Sender of letter:

**Trina Kuttner** née Kahn

\*14.12.1860 in Gleicherwiesen/Thur.

New York 1878 – ca. 1900

1900 - 1914 ?, 1914 Berlin

Return to Memmelsdorf after 1918

1939-1941 in Obermenzing

The date of the letter and the recipient was not known to us because the letter-head was missing. According to one of Trina Kuttner's nephews - now deceased, the letter was written to „a cousin in America“.

Most names in the letter could be identified from the context. It became clear that most of them are relatives from Memmelsdorf who either have fled to Munich recently or have emigrated to the US.

Research about family trees revealed relations between the families of Kahn, Kaufmann and Goldmeier.

Studies of various passenger lists documented the date of emigration of those relatives now living in the US. It also helped to define an approximate date for the letter:

The final conclusion is that Trina's letter was addressed to Manfred Goldmeier, one of her nephews and his wife Helene who arrived in New York at the end of May 1940.

Trina's remark that Fredi (Kahn) will leave school in a few weeks leads to summer 1941 as a time frame.

#### Recipient of letter:

**Manfred Goldmeier**

\*17.4.1879 in Memmelsdorf/Lower Franconia  
and **Helene Goldmeier** née Kaufmann

\*12.9.1878 in Altenstein

Immigration to New York on May 19, 1940



The house in Apfelallee in Obermenzing, photo Erich Kahn, ca. 1936



New York, Manhattan, 1954