

RG-50.233.0023

Summary

Note that the recording begins after the interview had already begun.

Laura Gruenbaum (née Ellenbogen), born on June 29, 1911, discusses her brother Abraham Ellenbogen and sister Hanna Ellenbogen. They were born just outside the small town of Rozwadów, Poland. They later moved within the town of Rozwadów. Their father was a wholesale flour merchant serving the surrounding peasants. The family was religious and Zionist and belonged to the religious Zionist movement Akiva.

She began by telling the story of her brother Abraham, who was born on January 17, 1908. Though her brother wanted to be an actor he went to medical school for a couple of years under pressure from his parents. He later quit and ended up going to law school in Krakow and became a lawyer. He later returned home. It was unclear whether he was taken by the Germans immediately after the invasion or whether he went to Lvov (now L'viv, Ukraine), which was then occupied by the Russians, with the rest of the family and taken away by the Russians and never seen again.

The interviewee then spoke about her sister Hanna. She was born in 1913. Hannah received a business degree but chose to open a nursery school in her hometown. After the Germans invaded, she went with her family to Lvov. There she met her future husband whose last name was Gozdinski. Hannah's parents opposed the marriage, but she married anyway. The couple then moved to Kielce where his family lived. Her husband later traveled to Lvov to get false papers for the family. While he was gone the Germans invaded the Russian occupied Kielce and Hanna and her in-laws were deported. Her husband survived the war.