

Description of investigation

In 1951 Eugenie Philippi applied for compensation of Bella Rothschild's donation in 1941. She was asked to give information about that what had happened in those days. I am going to summarize her answer.

I worked as a housemaid at the Rothschilds' from 1919 to 1941. In the end they had lived in 53, Freiherr-vom-Stein-Straße in Frankfurt. On 01/01/1941 Mrs Bella Rothschild drew up a donation document which says that I will be the owner of her property (furniture and so on). She wanted to thank for my loyalty and my faithful services.

On 19/10/1941 Mrs Bella Rothschild and her sister were deported by the Gestapo to Litzmannstadt in Poland. She wanted to be sure that I would get the things that (had) belonged to her. Therefore she gave me the document of donation. Mrs Manasse, an elderly relative of Bella Rothschild, was a witness. Later she died in Theresienstadt. Bella Rothschild also perished in Litzmannstadt.

After Mrs Rothschild had been arrested I went to her flat, 53 Freiherr-vom-Stein-Straße. I talked to a so called 'Abwickler', Albert Wisler, who worked for the tax authorities. I wanted to get the things that Mrs Rothschild had left for me. When Mr Wisler had a look at the donation document he said, "Jews have nothing to give!" I added that there were some wage demands. But he answered, "What happens to you is all right. Why did you work for Jews?" Whatever I said he ignored it. Later I found out that he had sold Mrs Rothschild's things to others.

Mrs F(?)acklam who lived on the 4th floor had talked to Wisler several times. She had seen Wisler having carried out two suitcases (once they belonged to Flora Rothschild). He had sold them – he had got 25 Marks. Mrs Facklam could be a witness.

This is the truth!

Bad Homburg, 11/04/1951

Eugenie Philippi

Copy of Donation Document

Miss Eugenie Philippi, born on 21/04/1895, has been employed in our house since 01/02/1919. In recognition of her services and her loyalty I dispose the following:

The things listed below shall be hers after my emigration. They will be mine on loan – free from charge – until I will have got a home abroad.

I explicitly state that the things are my property and that no rights of third parties exist.

These are:

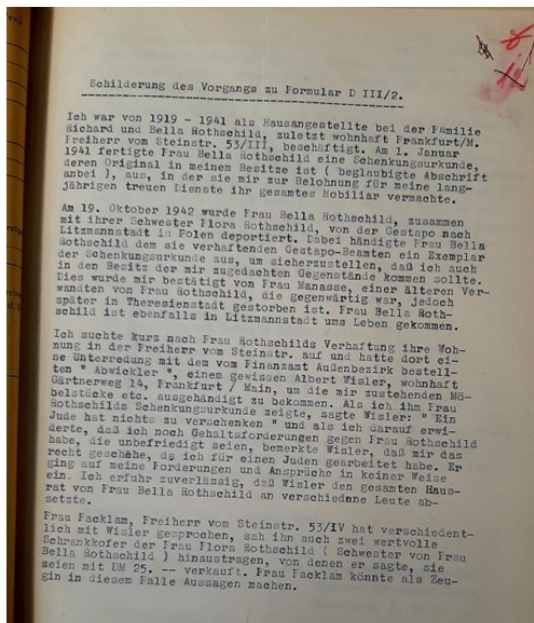
- buffet
- sideboard
- bookcase
- table, 6 chairs (leather)
- desk
- small armchair
- 'Vorlagen'

sofa cushions, all kind of curtains, pictures, decoration, things that

are in the buffet and in the sideboard, all the other furniture - e.g. things that are in the kitchen, hall, attic, bedroom, storeroom, basement, bathrooms, - everything that has been in my possession up to now.

Frankfurt, 01/01/1941

signed by Bella Sara Rothschild



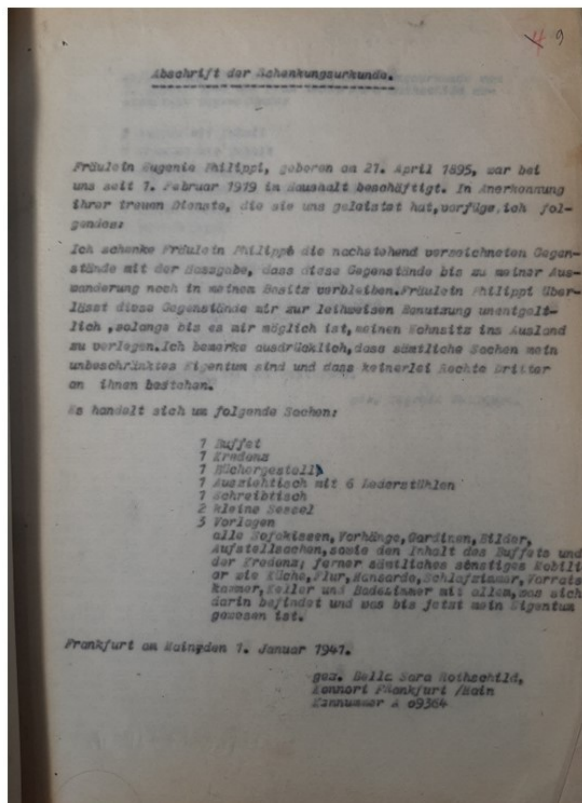
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