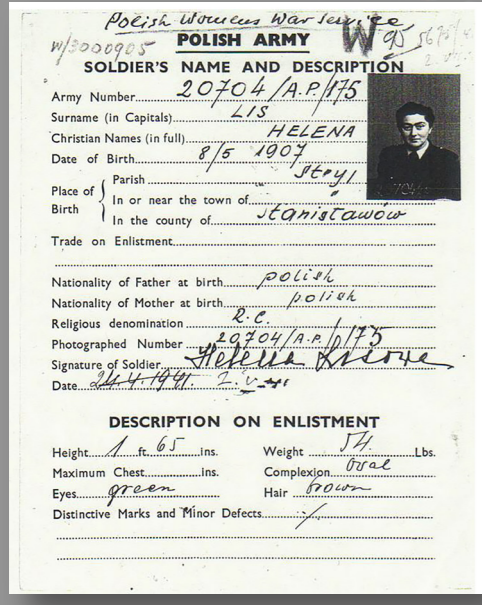
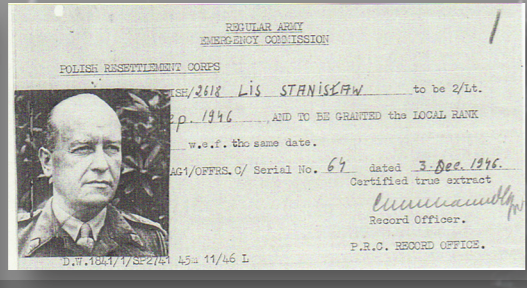


DEVELOPING THE NEGATIVE



Helena Lis Military records



Stanislaw Lis Military records and grave

February 1943.
E.M.L. conceived union of Stanislaw & Helena his.
Nov. 1943
Helena his frantic: EML imminent & doesn't want to leave Polish Army.
(Stanislaw meanwhile training Polish troops in Scotland)
∴ E.M.L. to R.T.
Helena disappears from scene 1943 ff - R.T. brings up EML
Nov. 1964
E.M.L. & husband get together - Stanislaw & Helena contacted by E.

Handwritten notes by Elizabeth Lis (E.M.L.) after tracing her parents in 1964. Sadly contact was lost in 1966.



Stanislaw Lis

Stanislaw.
Brilliant -
law & agricultural (forestry) degrees from Warsaw university.
to England 1941 -
of Polish forces.
1945 Polish president in exile's
personal rep in Britain -
wishes art medals etc &
big nob generally.
later becomes international secretary of Polish community in exile -
Also esteemed philatelist -
only very rare stamps !!!
Still legal eagle - don't know how, why or where.
lives in Barnes with H.2 & 2 dogs - disorganized chaos.
marked man & anti-Communism ∴ unable to return to Poland.

"I was called up from the Army reserve on 24.08.1939 at 5am to come and join the Horse Artillery in Warsaw.

On the 26.08.1939 I moved with the whole Battalion to go to Warsaw in the direction of Radzymin to Kijewice town where I arrived on 30th August 1939.

That was where the war met me..." - Stanislaw Lis

...when the war ended all the other children were returned to their parents, but I was left behind like a left luggage parcel... - Elizabeth Lis



Elizabeth Lis aged 15 months

My abiding childhood memory is of feeling a total outsider wherever I was, I knew I was Polish... I simply felt I didn't belong anywhere... - Elizabeth Lis

Helena!
me mate!
of Jewish (1/2) aristocratic family.
thamed & divorced by 18.
Engaged to Stanislaw at 18.
Never had to do for herself -
service flats etc.
According to H.2. the family considered itself out of top drawer but wasn't (Jealousy?).
Divorced Stanislaw in 1948 -
Remained (General Andra's wartime bodyguard)
lives in Ealing.



Helena Rothenberg and Elizabeth Lis

..I know she (Helena) had a sister whose son was taken captive by the Gestapo aged 14. He was kicked and beaten so badly he almost died, but managed to escape and went to America. - Elizabeth Lis

'WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?'

Can you help me uncover my grandmother's wartime story?

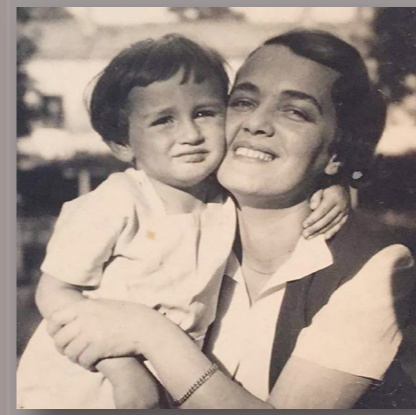
Q. My mother, Elizabeth Lis was taken as a new-born baby to a babies' home in Hope Cove, Devon by her Polish mother Helena, who promised to return for her after the war but never did.. It would be amazing to find living relatives and also my grandmother's story.
Jennie Milne 2014

A. Searching the Jewish records from Stryj, I found the birth records of Róza and Malie, two daughters of Pinkas Rothenberg, director of a sawmill, and Feiga Dwora Probst. The younger daughter Malie was born on 8 May 1902 - the same birthday as your grandmother....
Helena was fully Jewish, there is no doubt.
- Michael Tobias

Former Vice President, Programming at JewishGen. Co founder and Board Member of Jewish Records Indexing - Poland. Jewish expert (Q&A) WDTYTA magazine.



Michael Tobias



Irena Russocka and son James

"I guess it started on May 29, 1929, when I was born to Count Zygmund Russocki and Countess Irena Russocka...
I also spent time with my aunt Helena and her husband. She was my mother's sister, her husband a Senator.

September 1, 1939 is the begining that changed the rest of my life. I forget the time, but it was during the day that German planes started bombing Warsaw. To a ten-year-old boy it seemed it went on for days...



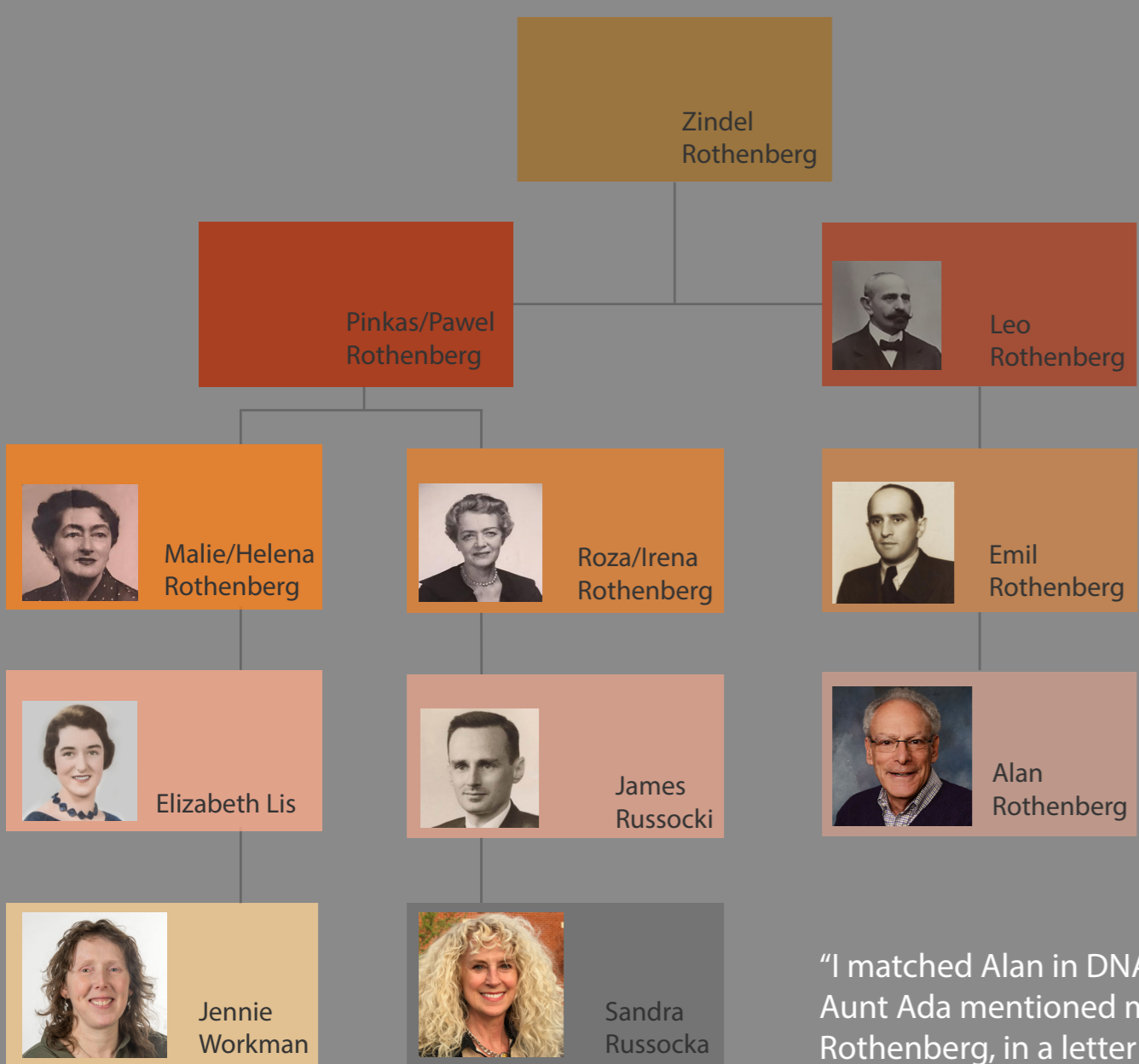
James with his aunt Helena 1980's

Mother's brother -
executed by firing squad in
Przemyśl in war.
1 sister in Canada
somewhere.
Rest killed ~ so I believe



James (Wladyslaw) Russocki

"Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the streets in which to dwell." Isaiah 58:12



Jennie Milne and Alan Rothenberg 2018

"I matched Alan in DNA. When we connected I discovered his Aunt Ada mentioned my Great Grandfather, Pinkas Rothenberg, in a letter she had written his wife. We met in London in 2018, and so, my mothers family scattered and broken by the Holocaust were finally reunited." - Jennie Milne



Siblings: Ada (left), Emil and Fania and her daughters in the Holocaust



Elizabeth Lis with her daughters in 1967. I am 2 years old, and already looking back... Photo: David Workman 1967

Looking back nearly 70 years later I can see how that helped to shape me as a person, not that it helps, but just sheds some light in what turned out to be some very dark places. Mum x