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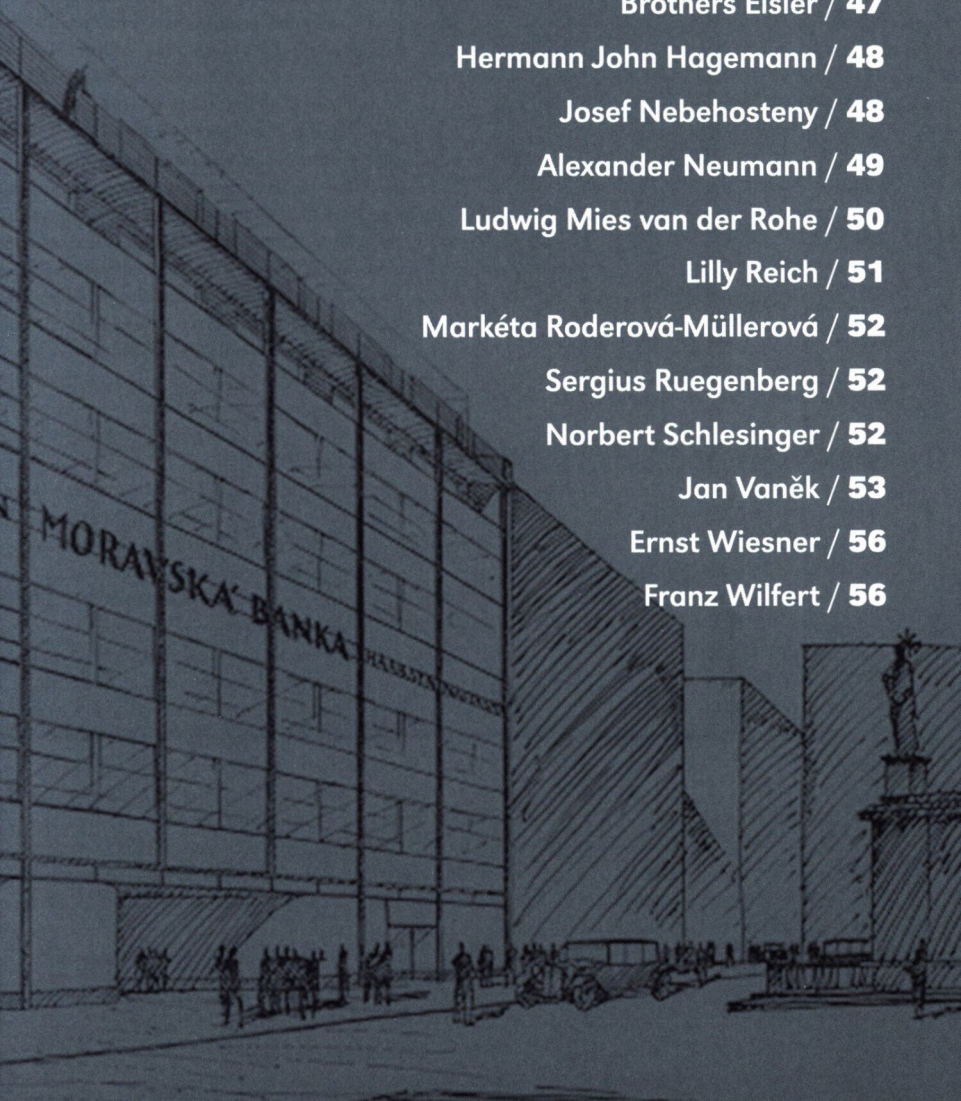
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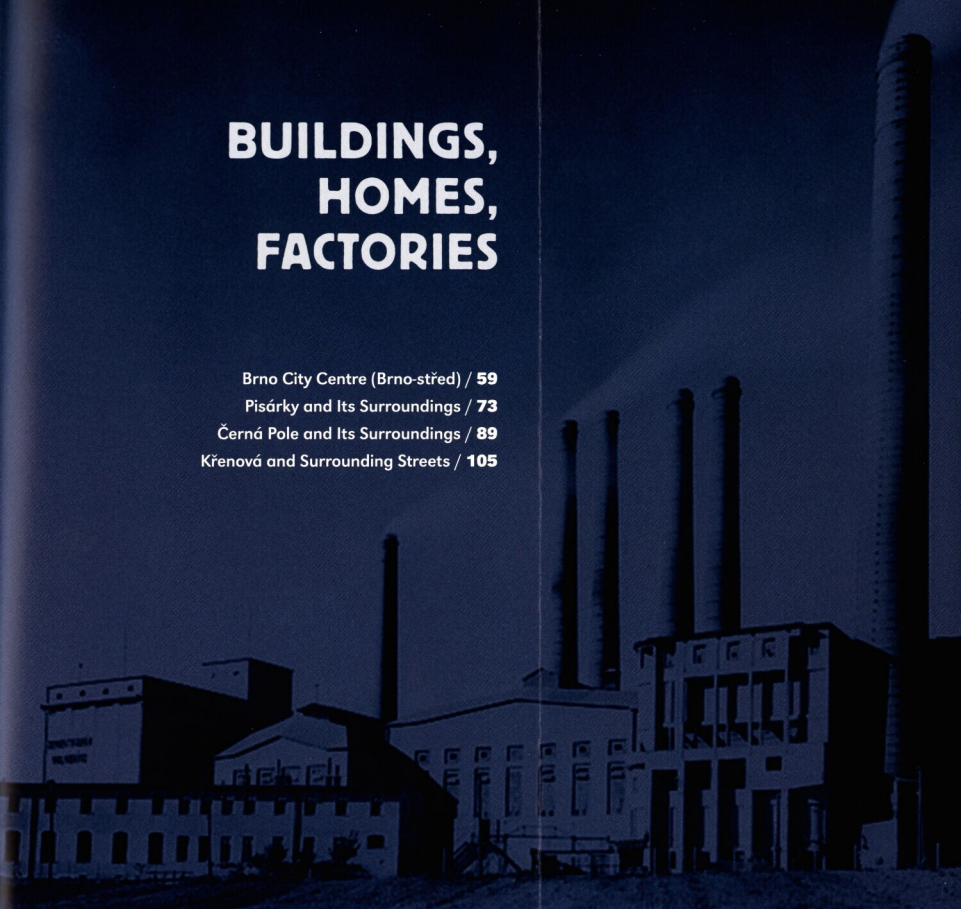
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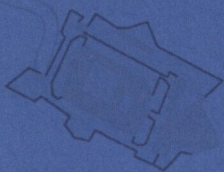
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BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES OF BRNO

The Jewish population in Moravia was subject to a number of restrictions including the prohibition to live in royal cities from the 15th century on. As a result, there were overcrowded ghettos emerging in smaller towns on both noblemen's and church estates such as Boskovice, Holešov, Ivančice, Kroměříž, Prostějov, Rousínov or Vyškov. However, in the 2nd half of the 18th century and mainly in the 19th century, all the restrictions were gradually revoked and the Jewish people would be no longer seen as second-rate citizens, at least in the eyes of the state. In the mid-1900s, the first generation of Jewish self-made businessmen emerged which was enjoying the newfound freedom and moved from ghettos to the formerly forbidden cities—Brno and Jihlava—successfully engaging in the textile business. The second and third generations of these businessmen became part of the Czechoslovak entrepreneurial elite. Unfortunately, grim fate befell them in the late 1930s and early 1940s, when they were first confined to the so-called invisible ghetto made up of demeaning restrictions limiting their everyday lives and, in the end, sent to the real ghetto in Terezín.

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