Judenplatz was the centre of what was once the Jewish Town, first mentioned in documents in 1294. It was here that stood the Or-Sarua Synagogue, the Jewish School and the Ritual Bath. This first Jewish community in Vienna fell victim to a pogrom in 1420/21, in which two inhabitants of the district were expelled or murdered and the buildings were destroyed.

Rachel Whiteread’s Holocaust Memorial stands on the ruins of the former synagogue, and commemorates the 65,000 Austrian Jews murdered under the Nazis.

The outer wall of the Memorial consists of books cast in concrete, their spines facing inwards. A concrete library, books that no-one can read, sentences that cannot be found.