

DÜSSELDORF

1910
1911
1912
1913
1914
1915
1916
1917
1918
1919
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
1933
1934
1935
1936
1937
1938
1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951



In 1937 the authorities forced Düsseldorf's Sinti and Roma to move to the municipal "Gypsy" camp at Höherweg. There they lived in primitive brick buildings with barred windows and steel doors, which were locked from the outside. The camp was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, and the inmates were only allowed to leave it to do forced labour. Nine people died in the camp. In 1943 the remaining prisoners were deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Did you know

... that the camp commander was a police officer notorious for his cruelty? He repeatedly set his dog on the prisoners.

...that Sinti and Roma survivors who returned to Düsseldorf after the war were housed in the same camp?

For you to do

What does the decision to put the survivors back in the camp after the end of the war say about the attitude to Roma and Sinti and the general response to what had happened?

The photo

Höherweg "Gypsy" Camp in Düsseldorf. Documentation Centre of German Sinti and Roma, Heidelberg, Germany.