

D9 Anna Maria "Settela" Steinbach

Settela Steinbach was one of 578 Roma and Sinti to be detained in 1944 and taken to the Westerbork camp. Once there, her hair was shorn off, so she had to tie a torn strip of cloth around her head as a covering. On 19 May 1944, Settela was transported to Auschwitz. As the wagon doors closed, she was staring out and captured at that precise moment on film by Rudolf Breslauer, a Jewish prisoner who was filming on behalf of the camp's commander. Settela was killed sometime in the next few months, along with her mother, two brothers, two sisters, her aunt, her two nephews and her niece. Only her father survived.



1910

1951

1944

💡 Did you know

... that for decades everybody thought the photograph was of a young Jewish girl? The "Girl with the Headscarf" became a symbol of the sufferings of the Jews during the German occupation.

... that her true identity was only discovered in 1994 by a Dutch journalist, Aad Wagenaar?

✎ Your task

find out more about Settela, go to www.romasinti.eu.

📷 About the photo

Archives of the Westerbork Memorial Site, Netherlands.



<https://www.romasintigenocide.eu/en/d>