H4 DÜSSELDORF (D)



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?

Your task

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?

About the photo

Höherweg "Gypsy" Camp in Düsseldorf.
German Federal Archives, Koblenz, Germany.

https://www.romasintigenocide.eu/en/h

1910 1951

1937-43