

Name of Camp: Sobibor

Location of Camp: Sobibor was a small town in Poland. It was isolated from other society and close to a train.

Brief description of the Camp:

This camp was a death camp that constantly brought people into to be killed. Other prisoners worked in a number of different jobs that included making clothes, shoes, cleaning cars and others. Some prisoners were responsible for sorting through the belongings of prisoners who were killed and cleaning up after their deaths.

How many people were imprisoned at the Camp? How many people perished at the Camp?

Approximately 250,000 Jews were killed at this camp. The people who were unable to work were sent to carbon monoxide gas chambers that were disguised as shower rooms. The total number of people in the camp is unknown.

What were the dates that the Camp was in existence?

This camp was built in the spring of 1942. The gas chambers were put into use starting in May of that same year. In 1943, the prisoners revolted and most of the prisoners were killed; some escaped. There are no records of new prisoners brought in after the revolt, but a guard stayed at the camp until the end of 1944.

When was the Camp liberated? Who liberated the Camp?

Camp was not liberated but was slowly closed after a prisoner revolt. The Resistance movement was led by Leon Feldhendler, who was killed. Approximately three hundred Jews escaped, but dozens were killed in mine fields around the camp and dozens more hunted down over subsequent days.

Other interesting facts:

- Since escape from a Nazi concentration camp was a rare occurrence, many people question that the camp ever existed.
- Yoram Haimi, an Israeli archaeologist, uncovered jewelry, keys, teeth and other items that helped identify some of Sobibor's nameless victims. Haimi's major breakthrough was the mapping that uncovered what the Germans called "The Road to Heaven," a path which the prisoners marched naked to gas chambers.

