

In 2022/23, the transformer station and the guard building of the former camp were renovated in accordance with monument protection and now serve as a memorial site. The permanent exhibition provides detailed information on the regional camps as well as the war cemeteries in Emsland and the County of Bentheim.

## Memorial site CAMP XII DALUM

Am Wasserwerk 8, 49744 Geeste - Dalum

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### Recommended reading

Gemeinde Geeste (Hrsg.), Martin Koers: „Wer von uns erinnert sich nicht mehr jener langen Leidenszüge von russischen Gefangenen...“.

Eine Dokumentation zu den historischen Spuren der Lager Groß Hesepe und Dalum sowie des Lagerfriedhofes (Kriegsgräberstätte Dalum), Geeste 2019.

Martin Koers: Die Lager Dalum und Groß Hesepe und die Kriegsgräberstätte Dalum, in: Michael Haverkamp (Hrsg.): Kulturlandschaftsmerkmale und Spuren der Industriekultur, Osnabrück 2023, S. 106-115.

Bernd Faulenbach / Andrea Kaltoven (Hg.): „Hölle im Moor“. Die Emslandlager 1933–1945. Wallstein, Göttingen 2021 (Schriftenreihe der Gedenkstätte Esterwegen; Bd. 1).

### Acknowledgement

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### Opening hours

**Summertime** 8 am – 8 pm

**Wintertime** 8 am – 5 pm

The permanent exhibition inside the memorial site is accessible every day during opening hours via an electronic system.

To enter, please dial the telephone number on the information board next to the entrance door and follow the instructions. The door will open shortly afterwards. Admission is free. The exhibition is not suitable for children under the age of 12.



# Memorial site CAMP XII DALUM

# Memorial site

## CAMP XII

### DALUM

A place of remembrance and commemoration of the victims of the National Socialist Emsland camps in Dalum, Groß Hesepe, Fullen, Versen, Wesuwe, Oberlangen, Wietmarschen, Alexisdorf and Bathorn

## THE EMSLAND CAMPS

Between 1933 and 1945, the National Socialist State maintained 15 prison camps in Emsland and the County of Bentheim.

As part of the judiciary system and the system of SS and Wehrmacht, all camps were places of terror. In total, up to 10,000 concentration camp prisoners and up to 70,000 convicts suffered in the Emsland camps. During the war, far more than 100,000 prisoners of war were added to that number.

The prisoners had to do heavy forced labour in cultivating the moors, in the peat and armaments industry, in agriculture and handicrafts, and other work crews.

More than 20,000 people, most of them Soviet POWs, starved to death, died of exhaustion and disease because of physical abuse, or were “shot on the run.”

The construction of the Emsland camps took place in three phases, which overlapped in time:

#### Phase I 1933-1934/36

**Concentration camps** (Börgermoor, Neusustrum, Esterwegen) under the responsibility of the State of Prussia (1933/34), from June 1934 to September 1936 the Esterwegen camp was under the direct command of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler.



#### Phase II 1934-1945

**Prison camps** under the responsibility of the Reich Judiciary (I Börgermoor, II Aschendorfermoor, III Brual-Rhede, IV Walchum, V Neusustrum, VI Oberlangen, from 1937 also VII Esterwegen). The prison camps IX Versen, X Fullen and XIV Bathorn, which were set up in 1938/39, were only occupied by prisoners for a short time until the autumn of 1939.

#### Phase III 1939-1945

POW camps of the High Command of the Wehrmacht (VI Oberlangen, VIII Wesuwe, IX Versen, X Fullen, XI Groß Hesepe, XII Dalum, XIII Wietmarschen, XIV Bathorn, XV Alexisdorf).

