

The "Mahn- und Gedenkstätte Walpersberg" e.V. association, Sitz Kahla, registered at the Amtsgericht Stadtroda/VR 726, was founded in 2003 and is a non-profit organization.

Our commitment is focused at the complete historically correct research regarding the history regarding the people and the factory.

The international research of our association members, together with an unique collection of original items, as well as a large private archive, makes this collection a one of a kind within the Kahla city museum.



Further information about the association  
"Mahn- und Gedenkstätte Walpersberg" e.V. or [www.walpersberg.de](http://www.walpersberg.de)

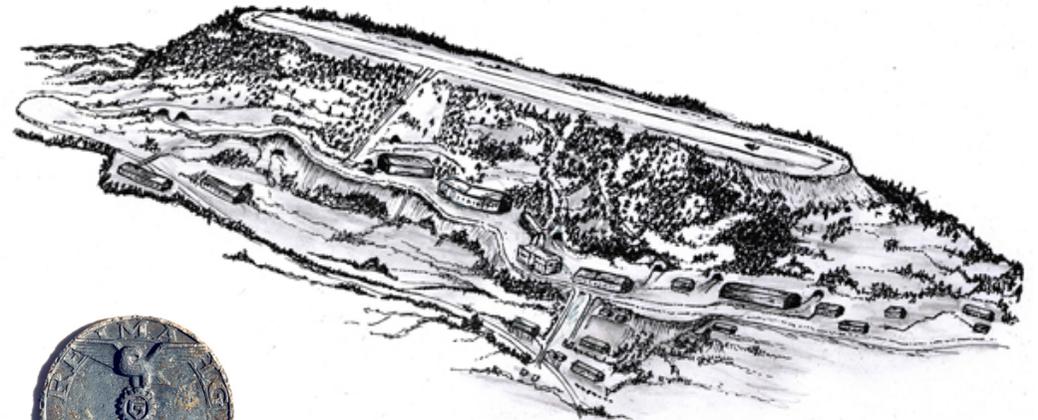
The exhibition is located in the Stadtmuseum Kahla,  
Margarethenstrasse 7/8, 07768 Kahla.

Exhibition by the Association  
"Mahn- und Gedenkstätte Walpersberg" e.V., Sitz Kahla



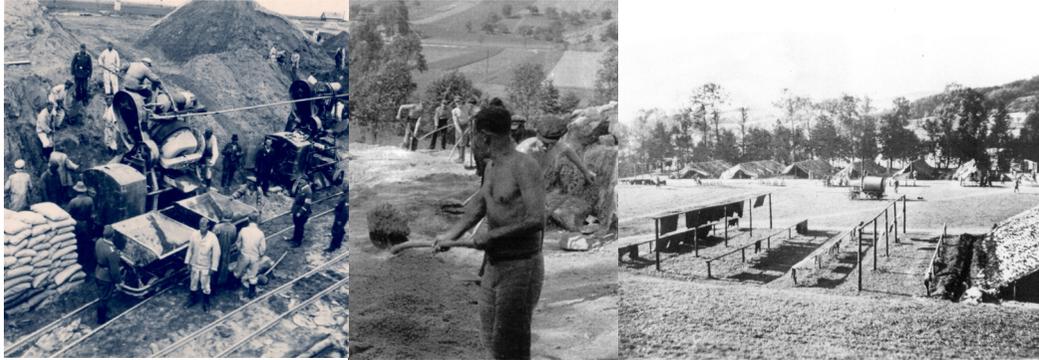
# REIMAHG

forgotten camps – forgotten history



THIS EXHIBITION WAS DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED  
IN REMEMBRANCE AND REMINDER OF THE VERY VARIED  
MEMORIES, BUT ABOVE ALL HUMAN HISTORY  
OF THE AIRCRAFT FACTORY "REIMAHG" AT THE  
WALPERSBERG NEAR KAHLA.

When construction began in April 1944, 10 major and several secondary camps were created, housing until the end of the war almost 15,000 people from all over Europe. Out of thirteen countries came forced laborers, POW's and civilian workers. To these numbers need to be added many Germans, as well as boys and girls of the Hitler Youth and BDM.



The first subterranean aircraft factory in Germany started with the assembly of the Me 262, with the first aircraft taking off from the runway on top of the hill on February 21, 1945, after which production started. The number of completed aircraft is situated between 20 to 26.



Production only took place in a small area of the underground factory. All remaining construction work was not finished at the end of the war, in April 1945.

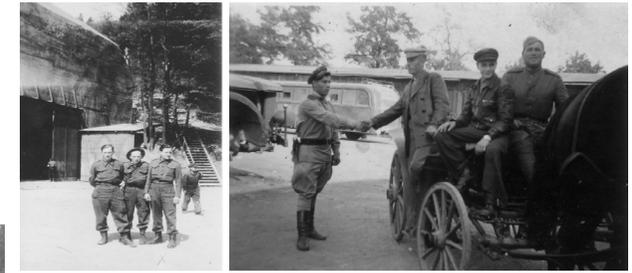


The 89th Infantry Division, belonging to General Patton's Third Army, occupied Thuringia and the "REIMAHG".

All forced laborers were registered, taken care off and returned to their home countries.



The 16th Fus battalion, a Belgian army unit, attached to the Third US Army, guarded the factory and the camps until July 1945, followed by the Red Army entering Thuringia, who took over all production sites.



From 1946 until 1952 the complete site was disassembled by the Soviet army and then destroyed.

In 1965, a memorial site was erected at the former construction site, but was moved in 1974 to its current location in the Leubengrund Valley.



As of 2003, our association organized the renewed ceremonies, with a large international presence, on the former construction site of the Walpersberg Mountain. The following years, various groups and towns donated memorial plaques, remembering the human tragedy and the thousands of forced laborers of the "REIMAHG".

Prior to the 2007 ceremony, 4 plaques were destroyed and 2 stolen out of the 10 already present. Soon after this, the site was sold and our association ceased its remembrance activities.



The association was given the possibility in the Kahla city museum to construct an exhibition about the history of the Walpersberg Mountain, a site that is closely connected to Kahla.

Besides the exhibition there is the book "REIMAHG - A pictorial history", by Patrick Brion, showing almost 400 photos and explaining in a very detailed way the history of the factory. Inside the book there are two tours illustrated, allowing the reader to discover the history by car or by foot.

