



Stichting Herdenkingsmonument Mierlo-Hout
News letter
8th year Volume No.3
July 2022

Another Monument

**Mierlo-Hout
Then and Now**

**Rabo club support
campaign 2022**

Hello friends,

Just another monument

Into hiding

During the war, the occupying forces arrested certain groups of people without reason. Some people went into hiding. This mainly concerned Jews, members of the resistance who were in danger and people who have been summoned to work in Germany. They were hiding in attics, in basements or in other secret hiding places, such as farms. For example, hiding cabins were dug in nature reserves. Because food and clothing are only available by ticket, people in hiding needed help from others to provide them with necessities. There were severe penalties for helping people in hiding.

Those who had people in hiding were sometimes the elderly, childless couples, or large families where a person in hiding would not be noticed so easily....

Sometimes they lived in the same rooms as the family who lived there and had to hide under the floor, in a hidden closet or in some other hiding place when someone knocked on the door.

Initially, mainly Jews went into hiding, such as the Frank family with their daughter Anne Frank. Often it was also non-Jewish people who had good reason to fear arrest by the German occupiers.

During the Second World War, going into hiding meant that people often hid for a longer period of time so as not to be caught by the police or Germans. At its peak, the end of September 1944, after the railway strike, more than 350,000 people were in hiding in the Netherlands alone. Probably an absolute record percentage within occupied Europe.

Among them were 28,000 Jews. In proportion to the total number of people in hiding, this may not be many, but it was substantial for a Jewish community of 140,000 people.



Collection Anne Frank Stichting

Anne Frank

Many thousands of men who were called up for the Arbeitseinsatz (forced labor in Germany) went into hiding because they did not want to work for the German occupier. Those who did go, could be injured or killed by Allied air raids, sometimes involving as many as a thousand bombers at a time. The reason for the Arbeitseinsatz lies in the fact that the vast majority of the German male population was fighting at the front. That is why workers had to be brought elsewhere, from the occupied territories.

Anyone who dared to openly criticize the German occupier had to go into hiding. Priests, artists and writers who disagreed with the Germans went into hiding. Those who failed to do so could be arrested and deported to a concentration camp.

Resistance fighters sometimes also decided to go into hiding.

People in hiding came in waves:

- the students came first after the first student strike in November 1941, to prevent employment in the Arbeitseinsatz (forced labour) in Germany
- Jews followed because of the start of the deportations in spring 1942
- subsequently more and more men aged 18 to 40 who did not want to work in Germany, encouraged by the illegal press
- afterwards large groups of men who did not want to go back to captivity and who also took part in the April-May strikes
- subsequently many participants in the railway strike

In general, it was extra difficult to accommodate Jews until mid-1943, when increased German terror meant almost every Dutch person could realize that Jews needed this help the most. An aggravating circumstance for Jews was that the majority of, for example, the Jews of Amsterdam were poor, and they could therefore not pay for going into hiding, while paying was not unusual, especially in the beginning.

Furthermore, the housing of Jews was subject to increasingly strict penalties, while Jewish people in hiding were also specifically hunted by the Kolonne Henneicke and members of the Landstorm of the NSB. Jew hunters received a bounty of f 7.50, and later even more, the so-called 'kopgeld'.

Separate hiding actions were set up for Jewish children, including by:

- Walter Süskind from the Hollandsche Schouwburg, with the help of others
- the NV group
- the Utrecht Children's Committee in collaboration with the NV group
- the Roman Catholic Church and many others

Protestant denominations.

About 25,000 Jews survived the war by going into hiding. Among them was also a relatively large number of (refugee) German Jews, because, in general, because of their knowledge of the

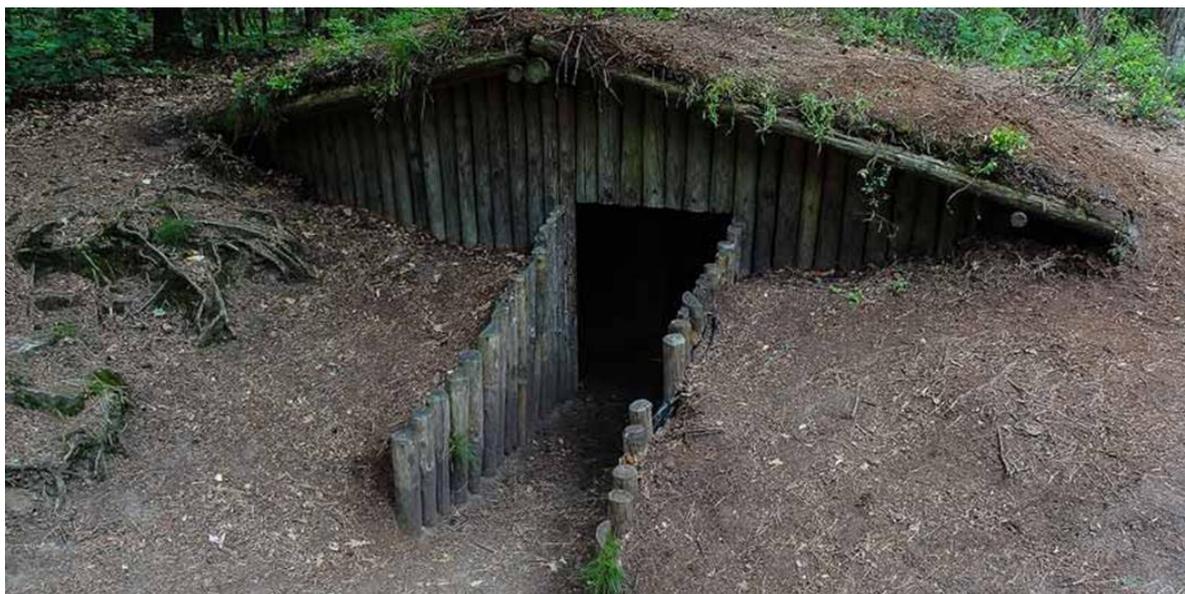
Germans, they had a better idea of the repression they intended, and because they were often better educated and wealthy.

There were problems in going into hiding, such as exploitation and extortion of Jews, serious problems in the relationship between people in hiding and hosts. In a few cases this led to the violent death of the person in hiding, as in the case in which the Amsterdam filmmaker Louis van Gasteren was involved. On a number of occasions, Jews have even helped to report Jewish people in hiding, as for example the Jewish Ans van Dijk, the only woman who was executed in the Netherlands after the war for collaboration. However, the book *Vogelvrij* by Sytze van der Zee from 2009 showed that there had been many more Jewish traitors than had been known up to that time.

After the war it turned out that the village of Aalten probably harbored the most people in hiding per capita: 2,500 out of a population of 13,000. There were also many people in hiding elsewhere in the east of the Netherlands. There was even a hiding camp, Kamp Bernhard, where German prisoners of war were kept during the war.

In addition, popular were:

- the Noordoostpolder (N.O.P.), which was reclaimed in 1942, and was nicknamed "Dutch Hideaway Paradise"
- the Peel, because this was a remote, hard-to-reach region
- for dark-haired Jewish children: Limburg (mainly through the "Roman" Limburg Hideout Organization and the Amsterdam resistance group NV)
- rural Friesland
- West Friesland
- The Biesbosch
- Gelderland



F I Wikipedia

Hideaway cabins in the forest

The Hidden Village, also called the Secret Village or the Pas Op camp, was a hiding place for people in hiding in the woods in the south of the municipality of Nunspeet, between the village and Vierhouten, in the Dutch province of Gelderland.

It is located on the Pas-Opweg.

The camp was an initiative of mr Edouard Henri von Baumhauer from Vierhouten. He was supported in this by, among others, the Nunspeter couple Dionisius Dirk Bakker ("Grandpa Bakker") and his wife Cornelia Johanna Bakker-van Rheenen ("Aunt Cor").

A wounded British pilot had such a fever from a bullet wound that his life was in danger. England was asked via the transmitter to drop penicillin, still unknown in the Netherlands, on the nearby Rummy III, with which the pilot could be treated.

DZ Rummy III was the code name of the paradroppings that took place in the period September-October 1944 in the vicinity of Vierhouten on an area called 36 bunder, located on the Noorderheide site of Daniël George van Beuningen. The goods were dropped during the night, such as weapons, ammunition and penicillin, packed in containers, were collected by truck and transported to a central depot. If collection was not possible, the containers were buried in the ground by the underground to be excavated later.

More than eighty people in hiding hid in the Soerelse Bossen during the Second World War. To keep their shelters a secret, the refugees had built nine well-camouflaged and partly underground cabins. The hidden village near the village of Vierhouten on the Veluwe, was founded in the spring of 1943 and was in use until the fatal Sunday in October 1944.

Thanks to the 4 & 5 May Foundation

Platform WW2 is a network organization in which the NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, the Network of War Resources, the Foundation for Museums and Remembrance Centers 40-45, the War Graves Foundation, the Liberation Route Europe Foundation and the National Committee for 4 and 5 May work together. Platform WW2 wants to keep the memory of the Second World War alive for future generations by means of Second World War.

October 29, 1944

On a Sunday in October 1944, the hidden village is accidentally discovered by two German SS men hunting in the woods. They see a child crossing a firebreak in the woods and discover the encampment.

Eight of the 86 were captured and shot at a later date, six people were shot at the Tongerenseweg and two at the bottom of the hill at camp house de Paasheuvel. The rest managed to escape. A monument on Tongerenseweg (the road between the Hidden Village and the town of Vierhouten) is a reminder of this.

The residents of the hidden village were provided with food by local residents. That was life-threatening, because if discovered you could be shot. There was a pump inside the camp for water.

Stevens Monument Espelo (Overijssel)

Razzia 14 Oct 1944.

During this raid on the Haalerweg in Holten, the 18-year-old Marinus Stevens from Apeldoorn was shot dead.

The Nijverdal resistance fighter Gerrit Jan Piksen was killed in Haarle

The Jewish person in hiding Mozes (Maurits) Bachrach was shot dead on the Portlanderdijk between Nieuw Heeten and Schoonheten.

Unveiled in 1998, this monument was initiated by former people in hiding Marsman and Tielbeek.



F I H.Raaijmakers



F I H.Raaijmakers

Hiding cabin

The Hullegie family helped many Jewish, Dutch, French, English and American people in hiding during the Second World War. They did this, among other things, by letting them go into hiding on their farm (Huize Hullegie), but in 1943 two shelters were also built, in dusty fields in the forest. Brave people risked their lives to bring food to the people in hiding in the shelters. Despite the German raids, capture and heavy interrogation, no one of the people in hiding was ever discovered. All have survived.



F I H.Raaijmakers

The cabin was reconstructed in 2000, thanks to the help of the neighbors from Helhuizen and Espelo.

More info about "the hidden village": www.verscholendorpvierhouten.nl;
"Stevensmonument Espelo": www.stevens-monument-en-schuilhut;

Mierlo-Hout Then and Now

A new item in the newsletter is Mierlo-Hout Then and Now. Here you can see the changes over a period of decades, based on the photos. As the first item, the location of our monument.



F | ©M.Coolen Sr.



Photo left:

Toon Coolen's former shoe store.

On August 28, 1944, barely four weeks before the liberation of Mierlo-Hout, many windows and roof tiles were blown off the houses by a bomb on Mierloseweg (formerly Helmondseweg). Everything was then boarded up as a precaution. To the right of the first block was the greengrocery of van Bladel. The block on the right is the current Houtse Bazar.

Photo right:

During the war, many citizens built simple air-raid shelters in their gardens.

The sign at the monument is on the exact location where the air-raid shelter was located at the time. The photo was taken shortly after the liberation of Mierlo-Hout. At the entrance of the air-raid shelter we see Francien Coolen. On top are the children Jan and Mies van Bladel. The sign is behind the monument.



F | ©Stichting HMMH



On the right photo you can just see the information sign of the air-raid shelter.

Welcome to the new friends of the monument!

Partly due to all the non-binding contributions from our club of friends, our foundation has the means to pay for the annual September commemoration, but also many other activities. But of course, it is just as important to ensure that the "Park" around the monument looks nice and presentable in all four seasons.

To realize this, we have been able to count on regular material sponsorship from companies for years. These donors are essential for the maintenance and appearance of the monument. We also regard them as "Friends of the Monument".

This spring we welcomed Rini van der Linden van de Ganzewinkel nursery in Mierlo-Hout as a new Friend.

Thanks to spontaneous contributions with beautiful bedding plants, donated by owner Marijn, the "Memorial Park" looks even more colorful this summer. Many thanks!

The HMMH Foundation stands for Peace, Freedom and Commemoration. Certainly now, but also in the future. Do you also want to contribute as a friend, without obligation and in a random way? Check out our website at: monumentmierlohout.nl/wordvriend and sign up!



F | ©Stichting HMMH



To vote

September 5 to September 27, 2022

This year, as a Foundation, we will again participate in the Rabo Clubkas campaign. By casting your vote, an x amount will be attributed to our Foundation.

We will use the allocated amount, which will be announced in October, in the preparations for the 80th anniversary of our liberation in 2024.

For more information about our Foundation, please refer to our website:

<https://monumentmierlohout.nl>