

Photos used in the essay

Photo front page: aerial photo of the destroyed city center of Würzburg

Photo 1: view of the Marienberg fortress. On its outer wall the words "Heil Hitler" can be read, in the foreground there are destroyed houses and rubble.

Photo 2: view over the destroyed city center of Würzburg

Photo 3: view over the destroyed city of Würzburg

Photo 4: in the foreground women (Trümmerfrauen) and men (Trümmermänner) load debris onto a rail car (Trümmerbahn); in the background one can see the destroyed church Stift Haug.

Photo 5: boy walking through a street, destroyed houses and debris to the side of him

Photo 6: sign embedded in the sidewalk saying "Wir wollen erinnern" [engl. We want to remember] in front of the main cemetery

Photo 7: black plaque on the wall of Würzburg's urban gallery. It states that after its destruction in 1945, the house was rebuilt in the same form as the urban gallery in 1965-1969.

Photo 8: black plaque next to the memorial room. It states that the exhibition commemorates the destruction of Würzburg in WW2. Within 20 minutes, more than 80 percent of Würzburg was destroyed in the evening hours of March 16th, 1945. A model of the destroyed city of Würzburg and a photo documentation with descriptions present the extent of this destruction. This memorial plaque commemorates the fire and bomb victims that lost their lives during the attack. It states: In memory of the death and to remind the living.

Photo 9: black plaque on the walls of the town hall, "Beim Grafeneckart 2." It states that in 1980, the south wing of the town hall was put up here instead of a baroque building from 1688, which was destroyed in 1945.

Photo 10: inside the memorial room, there is a model of the destroyed city of Würzburg (in the glass case) alongside a photo documentation and additional descriptions of March 16th.

Photo 11: inside the memorial room, three aircraft bombs are displayed

Photo 12: front view of the Mainfranken Theater Würzburg

Photo 13: front view of the Würzburg Cathedral

Photo 14: reconciliation bell

Photo 15: close-up of the reconciliation bell

Photo 16: wagon with debris near the river Main

Photo 17: memorial plaque to commemorate the women and men that helped to remove the debris. It states: To commemorate the "Trümmerfrauen" and the "Trümmermänner." Würzburg, March 16th, 1945. The "Trümmerfrauen" and the "Trümmermänner" of Würzburg made a new beginning possible through their deeds.

Photo 18: the train to remove the debris (Trümmerbahn) that ran through the market square of Würzburg, in the background, there are destroyed houses, on the right side there is the damaged chapel "Marienkapelle".

Photo 19: memorial of March 16th at the main cemetery. Surrounded by trees, the names of the known victims are printed on 32 glass plates. In the center, there is a stone sculpture of a family which covers the mass grave.

Photo 20: close up of the glass plates

Photo 21: close up of the glass plates

Photo 22: close up of the stone sculpture of a family

Photo 23: horse carriage with a sign stating "Auf geht's zum Aufbau" [engl. Let's start reconstruction] driving through the destroyed city. In the background, there is the damaged townhall.

Photo 24: two men standing on a wall of a destroyed house to recycle bricks and tear down the ruin

Photo 25: people load debris onto a boat on the river Main. In the background, the skyline of the destroyed city can be seen.

Image credits

Photo front page: Geschichtswerkstatt im "Verschönerungsverein Würzburg e.V."

Photo 1: Geschichtswerkstatt im "Verschönerungsverein Würzburg e.V."

Photo 2 + 3: Historisches Archiv der WVV.

Photo 4 + 5: Mettenleiter, Andreas (2020) *Würzburg - 16. März 1945. Dokumentation zum 75. Jahrestag der Zerstörung*. Pfaffenhofen/ Ilm: Akamedon p.92 top, p. 183 bottom right.

Photo 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17: Johanna Dahl and Anne Mertel.

Photo 18: Geschichtswerkstatt im "Verschönerungsverein Würzburg e.V."

Photo 19, 20, 21, 22: Johanna Dahl and Anne Mertel.

Photo 23, 24, 25: Geschichtswerkstatt im "Verschönerungsverein Würzburg e.V."

The Holy Bible: New International Version. 1 Sam. 25.29. *Bible Gateway*. 1 August 2021.

<<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Samuel%2025&version=NIV>>.

Picture credits for the picture album on the website

Photo 1: view from the town hall tower over the destroyed city center of Würzburg (1948)

Photo 2: view from Eichhornstraße to the Marienkapelle before its destruction (1944)

Photo 3: view from Eichhornstraße to the Marienkapelle after March 16th (1945)

Photo 4: view towards the Marienkapelle, debris on the streets, people whose houses were destroyed often wrote their new address on the remaining walls of their former house, as can be seen on both houses in this picture (1945)

Photo 5: people built a provisional roof onto the ruins and (re-)opened small stores, here located at the destroyed market square (1946)

Photo 6: destroyed house with an air-raid shelter, the markings for the shelter (SR – ger. “Schutzraum”) and the emergency exits (NA – ger. “Notausgang”) are still well recognizable (1945)

Photo 7: people tear down a ruin by throwing a rope around the remnants of the building and pulling thereon (1949)

Photo 8: the church Stift Haug in 1940 before its destruction (1940)

Photo 9: the destroyed church Stift Haug after March 16th (1946)

Photo 10: the destroyed church Stift Haug, people began to remove the debris (1946)

Photo 11: the destroyed Würzburg cathedral, surrounded by demolished buildings (1945)

Photo 12: destroyed buildings near the Würzburg cathedral (1950)

Photo 13: destroyed house surrounded by unaffected and/or already reconstructed buildings (1948)

Image credits: Geschichtswerkstatt im “Verschönerungsverein Würzburg e.V.”