The Ravensbrück Women’s Concentration Camp
History and Memory

Exhibition focal points

First floor – Start of the exhibition
1. The establishment and development of the Ravensbrück camp
2. The prisoners
3. Everyday life at the camp: Conditions of imprisonment
4. Everyday life at the camp: Solidarity and self-preservation
5. The SS and its ‘retinue’
6. Slave labour and the satellite camps

Ground floor – Exhibition continued
7. The Uckermark ‘juvenile protective custody camp’
8. The camp’s hospital
9. Murder and mass deaths at Ravensbrück
10. The dissolution and liberation of the camp
11. Life after liberation
12. Ravensbrück as a site of commemoration
13. Commemoration of Ravensbrück in Europe

First floor – Start of the exhibition

Ground floor – Exhibition continued
The exhibition site

The exhibition that opened in 2013 is located in the former SS head-quarters building, which was constructed in 1940 and served as the administrative centre of the Ravensbrück concentration camp. This is where the SS planned and issued orders for the crimes that were committed in the camp.

The offices of the commandant, the adjutant and the camp administration were located on the first floor. The prestigiously furnished hall at the centre of the first floor probably served as the SS officers’ mess. On the ground floor were the offices of the Political Department and the mail censorship office as well as the SS garrison physician’s treatment rooms, where SS personnel were treated.

From 1945 to 1977, Soviet forces used the building. After they had moved out, it was transformed into the Memorial’s main museum. Between 2011 and 2013, the building was renovated according to accepted conservation practices by the Kannenberg architectural firm. The design focussed on preserving and revealing the remaining original structure of the building. The original room layout was made visible again, while the later changes to the building’s structure can also still be seen.