

THE GYPSY ROMANI

History

The Romani, colloquially the Gypsies, represent a diaspora from northwestern India 1,500 years ago. Although most live in Europe today, over one million live in the U.S. and 800,000 live in Brazil. Historically known for living and traveling in wagons and caravans, the Romani place great value on the family, including extended family. Romani law required a groom's family to pay a price to the bride's parents, and although not often practiced today, cross border federal money laundering cases still exist related to arranged marriages. Today, most Romani in the U.S. are Christians, own homes, seek education and don't look or act much differently than this writer or reader. It was not the same in Germany in the 1930s; Hitler made the smaller stature Romani an early target.

Nazi Concentration Camp Badges

	Politisch Political prisoner	Berufsverbrecher Professional criminal	Emigrant Foreign forced laborer	Bibelforcher Bible Student (Jehovah's Witness)	Homosexuell Male homosexual/sex offender	Arbeitscheu/Asozial Work-shy/Asocial	Zigeuner Gypsy (Roma or Sinti male)
Basic colours							
French (Franzose)							
Polish (Pole)							
Spanish (Spanier)							
Häftlingsnummer Inmate number							
Kennzeichen für Funktionshäftlinge Special inmates' brown armband							
Enemy POW or deserter							

Legends & Lessons

This field served as a site for caravaning Gypsies. They camped for the night between "Freeborn Village" (behind the red house) and the Church.

The wagons were an annual attraction to settlers who were forewarned by hearing the caravans' bells from miles away. The Gypsy traditions of dancing, music-making, and living and maintaining their culture on the road were all attractions. Crowd sources say that they were headed to Pierce County (south of Tacoma) and spent the summers in western British Columbia. Most descendants today are reported to reside in the southern Nevada area. Victims of exclusion and ethnic cleansing in our lifetimes, they were one of the first cultural groups at Auschwitz to be exterminated (Jehovah's Witnesses being another). A kinder, but silent cleansing today, is the assimilation into American life through marriage and loss of traditions.

Ethnobotanical Gardens

Native plant "starts" from Bonhoeffer Gardens (to your SW, by the I-5) illustrate 99 foods and materials available to the American peoples who lived here 10,000 years without the need to develop agriculture. Planter boxes contain:

Acer circinnatum (01) Achillea millefolium (02) Achillea triphylla (03) Adiantum obtusum (04) Allium cernuum (05) Allium schoenoprasum (06) Alnus rubra (07) Amelanchier alabuta (08) Anaphalis margaritacea (09) Apocynum androsaemifolium (10) Arbutus menziesii (11) Arctostaphylos columbiana (12) Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (13) Athyrium filix-femina (14) Balsamorhiza hirtella (15) Berberis aquifolium (16) Berberis nervosa (17) Betula papyrifera (18) Camassia elatior (19) Camassia quamash (20) Castilleja linaria (21) Ceanothus americanus (22) Ceanothus velutinus (23) Claytonia sibirica (24) Cornus sericea (25) Corylus cornuta (26) Crataegus douglasii (27) Dodecatheon hendersonii (28) Eryngium yuccifolium (29) Empetrum nigrum (30) Equisetum hyemale (31) Fragaria chiloensis (32) Fragaria virginiana (33) Galium aparine (34) Galium obtusifolium (35) Galium sp. (36) Geranium maculatum (37) Geranium robertianum (38) Geranium sp. (39) Glycerhiza lewini (40) Glycerhiza lewini (41) Glycerhiza lewini (42) Glycerhiza lewini (43) Glycerhiza lewini (44) Glycerhiza lewini (45) Glycerhiza lewini (46) Glycerhiza lewini (47) Glycerhiza lewini (48) Glycerhiza lewini (49) Glycerhiza lewini (50) Glycerhiza lewini (51) Glycerhiza lewini (52) Glycerhiza lewini (53) Glycerhiza lewini (54) Glycerhiza lewini (55) Glycerhiza lewini (56) Glycerhiza lewini (57) Glycerhiza lewini (58) Glycerhiza lewini (59) Glycerhiza lewini (60) Glycerhiza lewini (61) Glycerhiza lewini (62) Glycerhiza lewini (63) Glycerhiza lewini (64) Glycerhiza lewini (65) Glycerhiza lewini (66) Glycerhiza lewini (67) Glycerhiza lewini (68) Glycerhiza lewini (69) Glycerhiza lewini (70) Glycerhiza lewini (71) Glycerhiza lewini (72) Glycerhiza lewini (73) Glycerhiza lewini (74) Glycerhiza lewini (75) Glycerhiza lewini (76) Glycerhiza lewini (77) Glycerhiza lewini (78) Glycerhiza lewini (79) Glycerhiza lewini (80) Glycerhiza lewini (81) Glycerhiza lewini (82) Glycerhiza lewini (83) Glycerhiza lewini (84) Glycerhiza lewini (85) Glycerhiza lewini (86) Glycerhiza lewini (87) Glycerhiza lewini (88) Glycerhiza lewini (89) Glycerhiza lewini (90) Glycerhiza lewini (91) Glycerhiza lewini (92) Glycerhiza lewini (93) Glycerhiza lewini (94) Glycerhiza lewini (95) Glycerhiza lewini (96) Glycerhiza lewini (97) Glycerhiza lewini (98) Glycerhiza lewini (99) Glycerhiza lewini (100)