

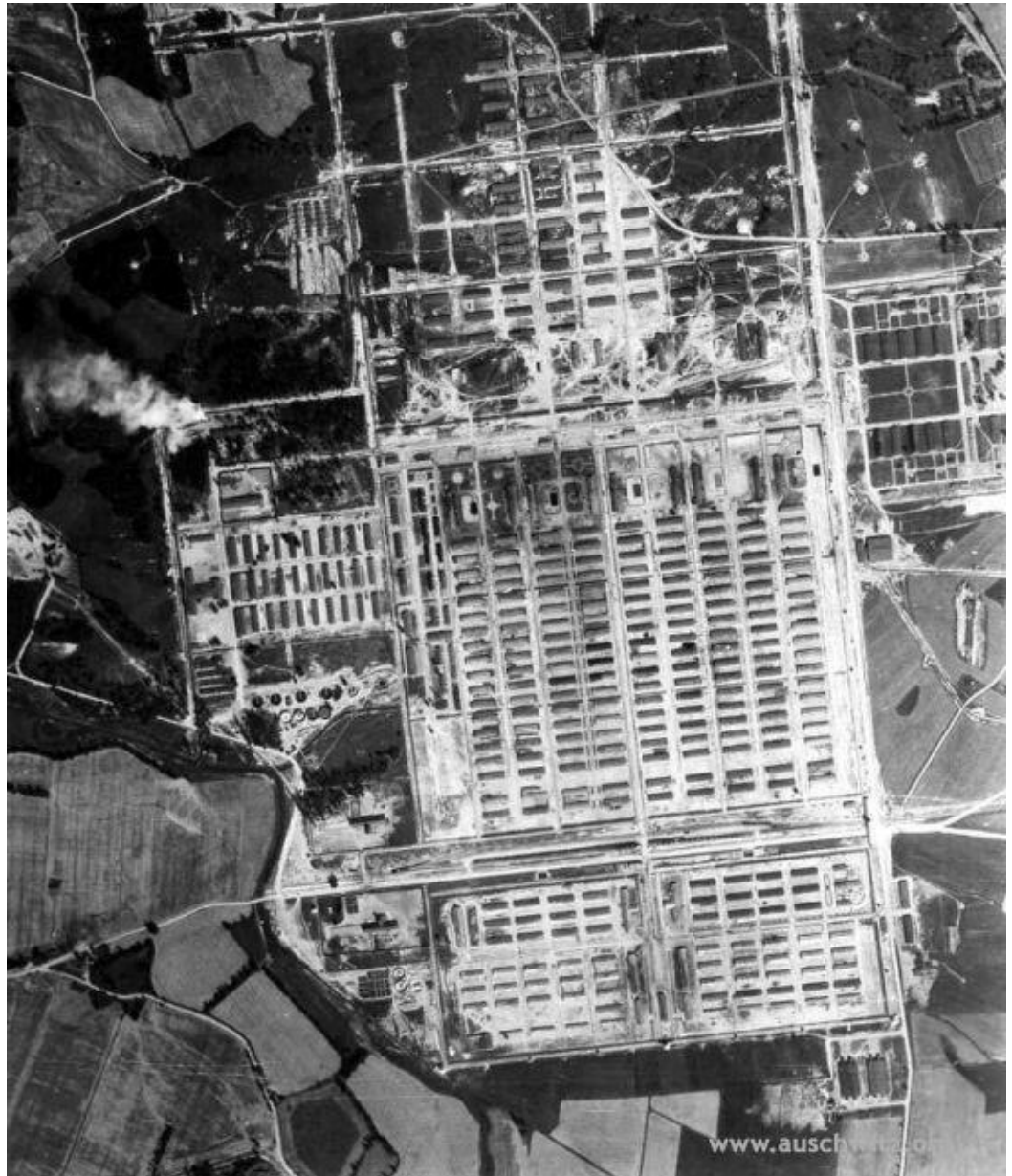
Auschwitz Birkenau

Explained with Aerial Photographs

The purpose of this slideshow is to help facilitate the learning of the spatial dimensions of the Auschwitz II Birkenau Camp.

Summer 1944

In the summer of 1944
Allied spy planes took
aerial photographs of
the Auschwitz II
Birkenau Camp.



Modern Times

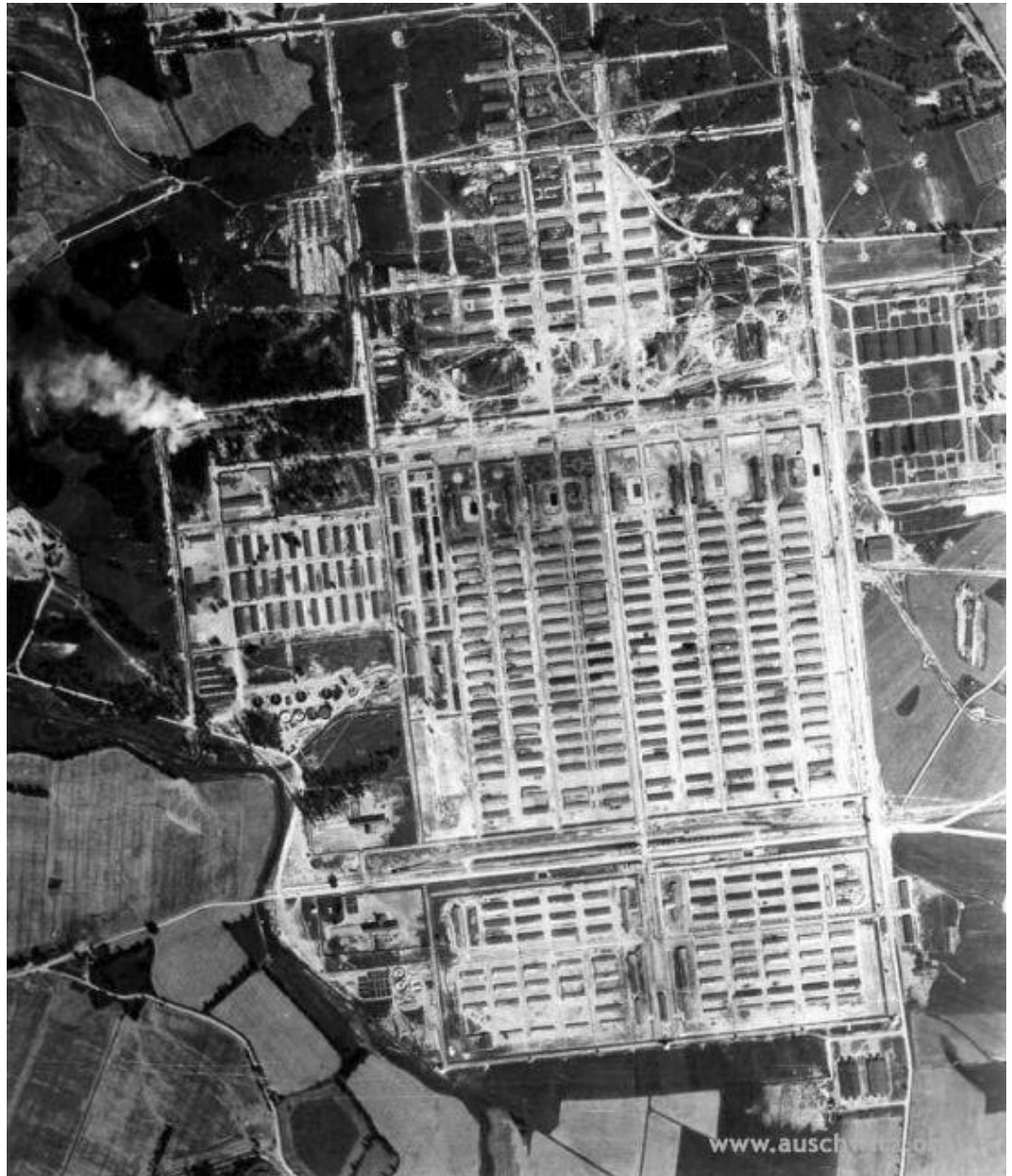
This is an aerial photograph of what Auschwitz II Birkenau looks like in more recent times. The wooden barracks have since gone and now only their foundations and a select row of barracks still stand.



Summer 1944

The camp itself spans a very large area with many particular points of interests such as the different sectors, rail ramps, warehouses, and crematoria.

The camp may be difficult to navigate at times so they will be identified for your convenience.



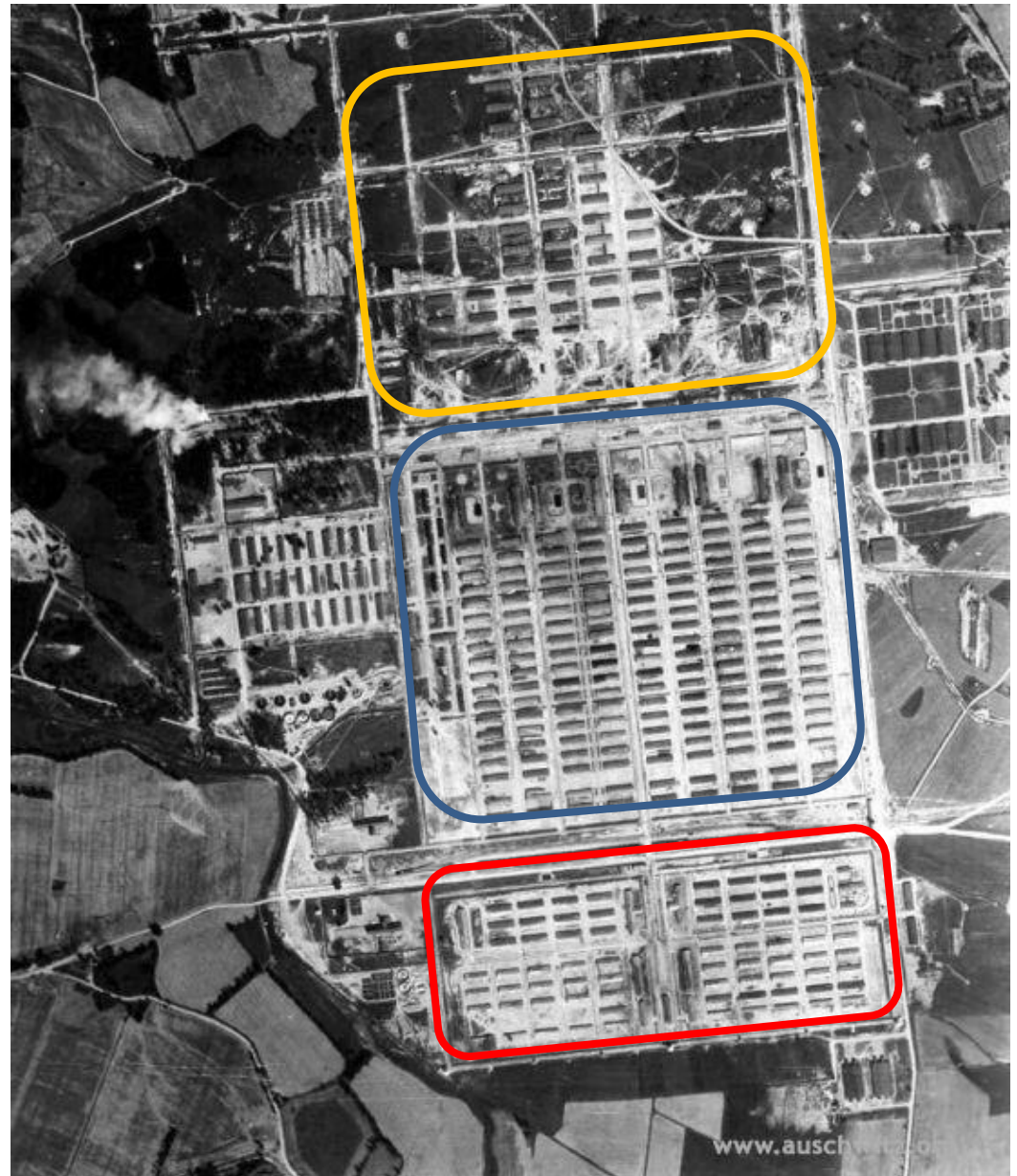
Sub-Sectors

Section BIII, the transit camp, called by prisoners “Mexico”, highlighted in **Yellow**.

Section BII, holding different prisoners, men, women and children, highlighted in **Blue**.

Section BI, the Women’s Camp, highlighted in **Red**.

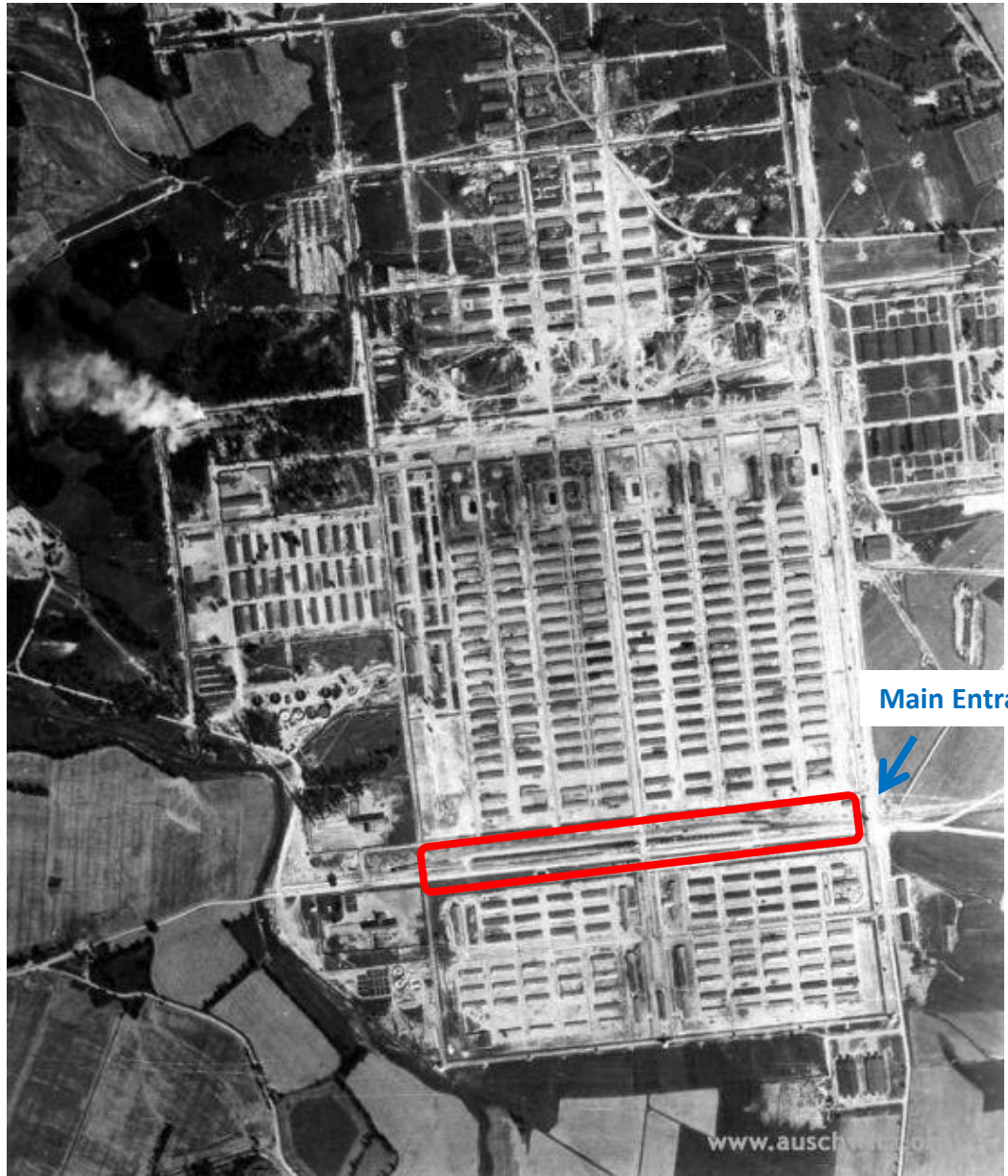
Note: the sectors are numbered by order of construction.



Railway Ramps

The railway ramp within the camp, which became operational in May of 1944 for the arrival of transports carrying the Hungarian Jews.

Previously the “Alte Judenrampe” was used. It was located just a bit east of the Women’s Camp.



East 

Main Entrance and Train Tracks



This is a cattle car positioned at the actual site of the “Alte Judenrampe” – the kind of rail car that deportees would be transported in.



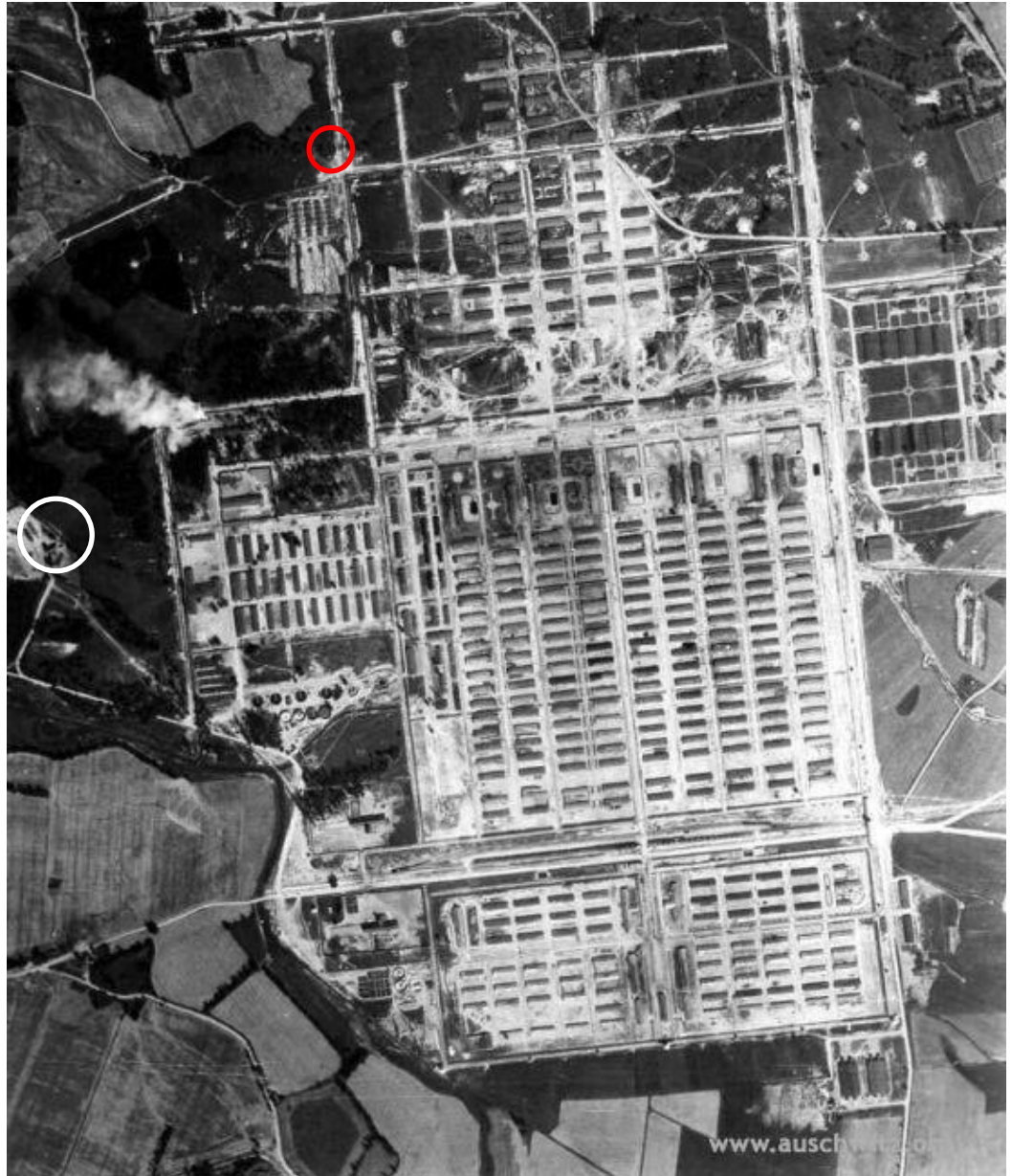
Below is the railway inside the camp. In the distance you can see the “selection” ramp.



Gas Chambers

The initial gas chambers in Birkenau were known as the “Red” and “White” Cottage. They received these names from the colour of their exterior paint.

They were little more than small, multi-roomed cottages and could fit a significantly smaller number of people than the later gas chambers in the crematoria II-V.



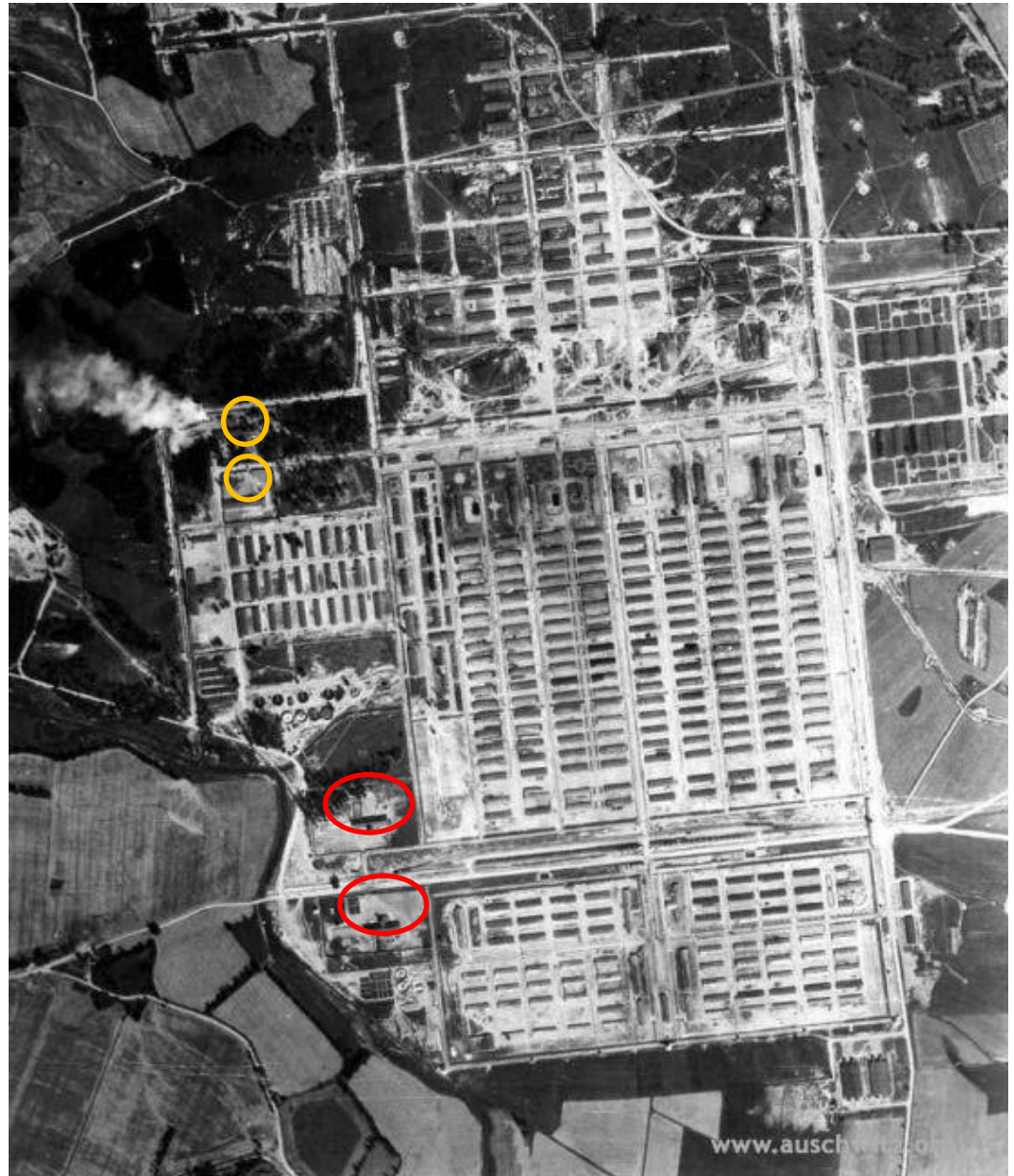
Crematoria and Gas Chambers

The construction of the four larger crematoria and gas chambers began in 1942.

They could fit vast numbers of people in comparison to the Red and White Cottages.

Crematoria II/III

Crematoria IV/V



Crematoria

Crematoria II and III were in turn much larger than crematoria IV and V, the former could process almost twice as many prisoners as the latter.

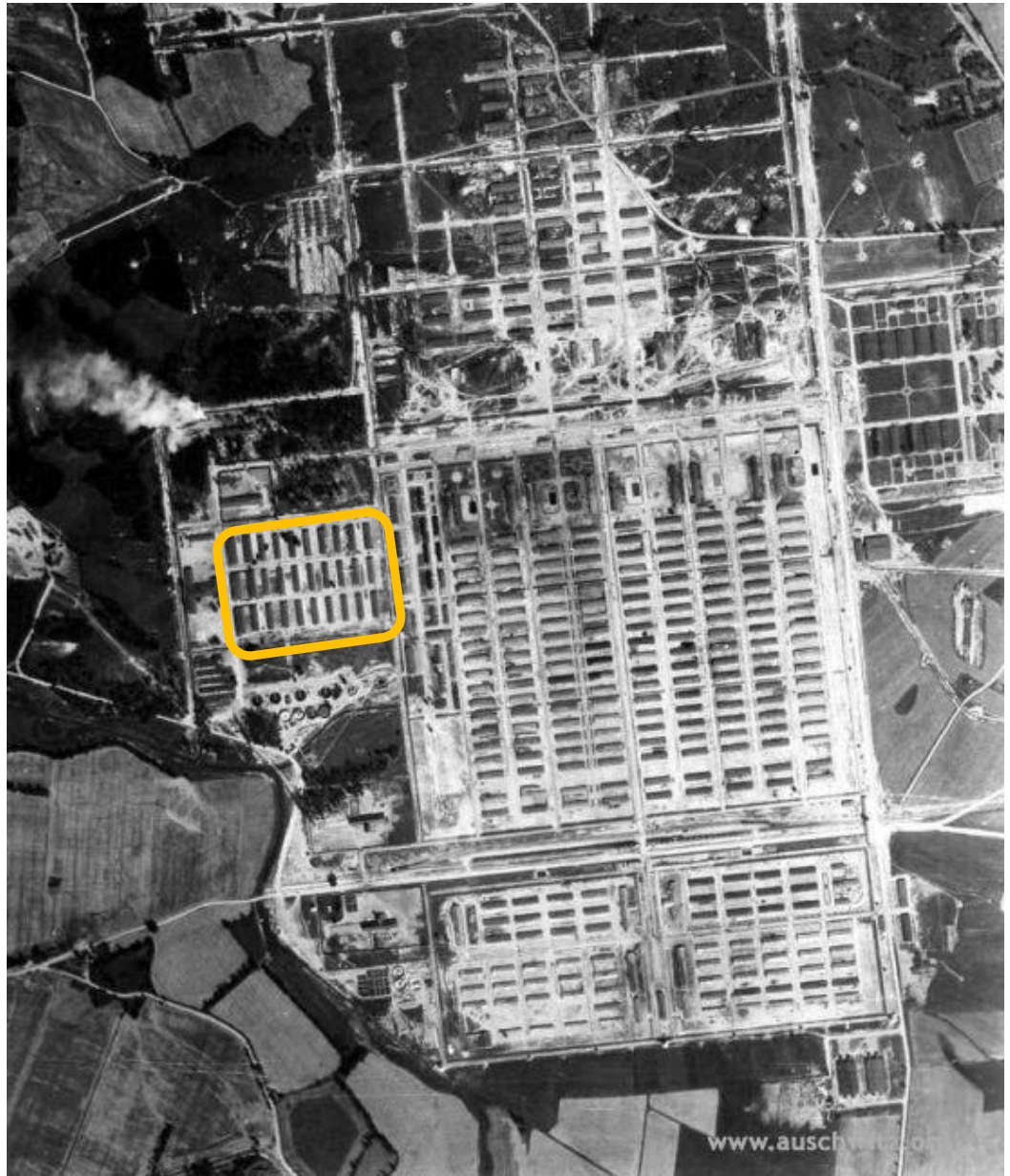


Remains of Crematoria III

Kanada

The complex of warehouses that were used to keep all of the confiscated goods of arriving prisoners was known as “Kanada.”

This term developed from the prisoners by referring to Canada as a “land of plenty” so to speak.



Kanada

Before the final death march out of Auschwitz the camp authorities attempted to burn everything they could not bring with them.

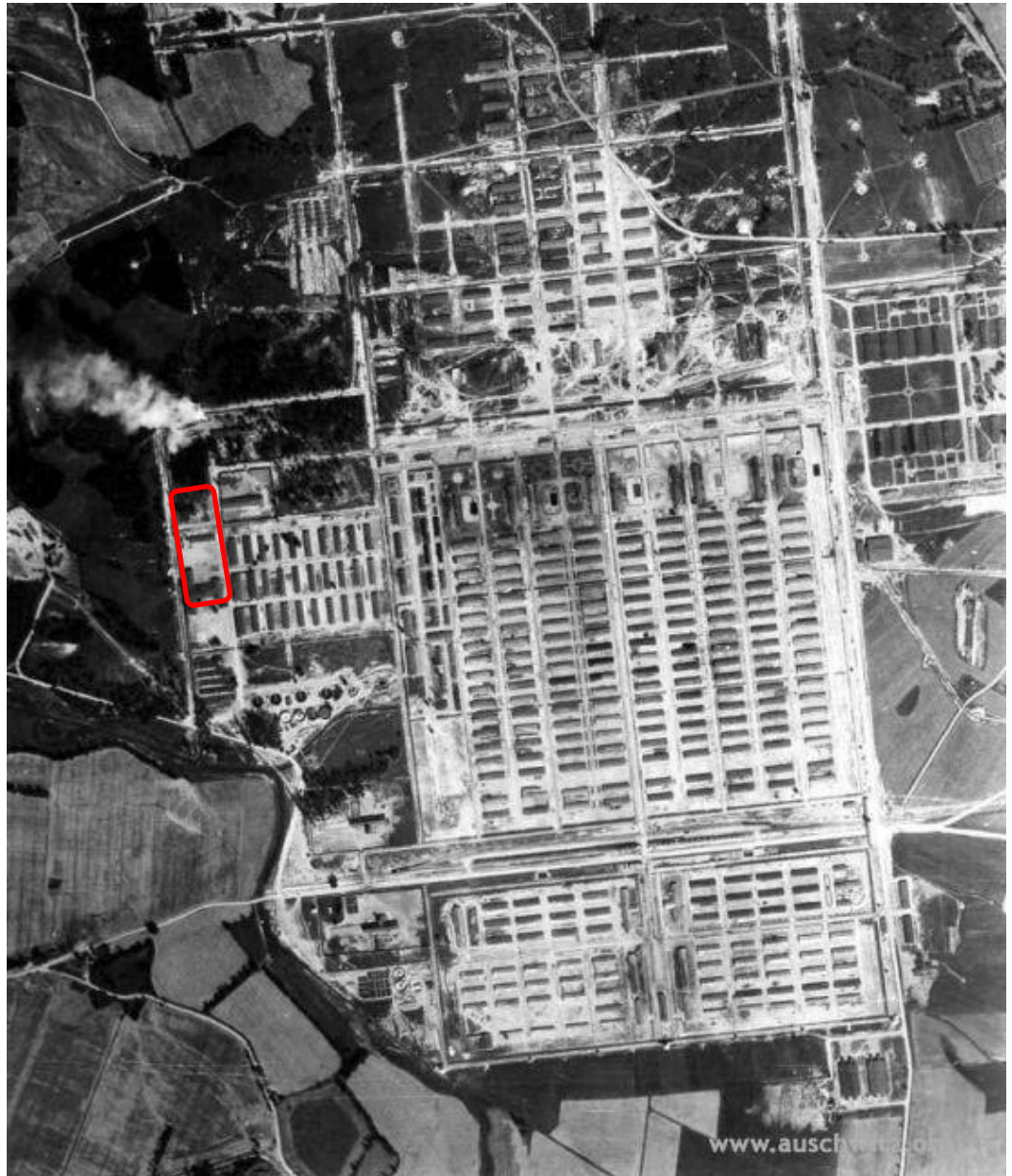
These are images of some of the remains of what survived.



Sauna

The Sauna building was the main registration building for prisoners.

Those coming off the platforms who were selected to work would be sent here first for registration. They would receive camp clothing, be shaved and tattooed.



Soccer Field

Tadeusz Borowski mentions playing soccer in a field nearby the Crematoria.

The field is believed to be the highlighted area. From there he would have had a clear view of those walking to the gas chambers immediately after coming off the ramp.

