

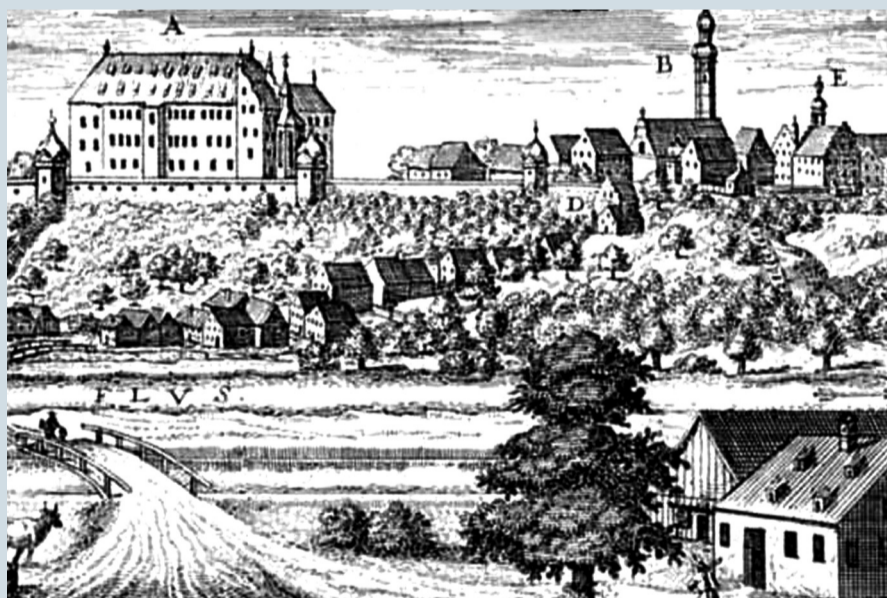
Munich Gate

History...

The *Gate on Kühberg hill* is first mentioned in a document from 1494 as one of the three gates of the town of Dachau.

From the mid-17th century, the fortified passage was known as the “Munich Gate”. Over the centuries, countless goods wagons and coaches passed this narrow gate. The gate was situated at the steepest point of the “Kühberg”, dreaded by coachmen and carters alike.

For a long time, the steep road up the hill along with the “Munich Gate” was considered a hindrance to traffic: again and again, people and draught animals were involved in serious accidents. Finally, in 1790, on the orders of the Bavarian Prince-Elector Karl Theodor, the steep road along with the access road into the town of Dachau was levelled off and widened. The gate was also torn down in the process. Since then, the hill has been known as “Karlsberg”.



The town of Dachau with the “Munich Gate” (letter D) – excerpt from a copperplate by Michael Wening (1645–1718), around 1700

... and a story

Munich historian and privy councillor Lorenz Westenrieder (1748–1829) described the situation thusly: *Anyone who has not seen this hill before and sees it for the first time in its current state will be hard pressed to imagine its former wretched condition: not only was it very narrow throughout, and restricted, but at the top, where one had to pass a dark, badly designed gate, it was so precipitous and, especially in winter, so slippery that, in considering the supreme effort of the horses and the danger awaiting the carriages here, one could not contemplate it without fear and terror.*



Even after modification, the road down the hill remained dangerous: *On 12 June 1848, my two boys were hit on Dachau hill by a corn wain rapidly following behind, but with God’s help they were pulled from the wreckage uninjured...*, votive tablet at the pilgrimage chapel of Maria-brunn (near Röhrmoos)

The picturesque old town of Dachau with its 1200-year history features many sites of historical interest. Special buildings of prominence in the townscape are marked by these historical plaques.

Dachau historical plaques are a joint project by the town of Dachau and the Dachau District Museum.

