



Historical Damage Photograph Details of the Wiener Neustadt Tornado of 1916

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On the 10th of July 1916 in the late afternoon a large tornado with a diameter of up to 1 km passed over the northern neighbourhoods and industrial zones of the city of Wiener Neustadt in Lower Austria, 40 km to the South of Vienna. At least 35 people died in this event, 116 persons were severely injured, in total 328 persons suffered injuries.

In a project called TORNeustadt, ESSL re-assessed the event in order to deliver information for the local civil defence. The project was commissioned by the city of Wiener Neustadt.

A few damage photographs were already known before the start of the project, but during the research in total more than 100 damage photographs were discovered in different archives, much more than expected.

The rich photo material together with newspaper articles, official reports, early scientific studies and eyewitness reports allowed drawing a vivid picture of this F4 tornado event, nearly 100 years after it struck.

With this poster we present a selection of historical damage photographs worth seeing, including rare examples of the destruction of massively built industrial-type brick structures. Image captions enlighten the individual ratings by providing the background information used for the DI-DoD (Damage Indicator – Degree of Damage) approach.