

KRYSA, Janina
Polish Witnesses to the Holocaust Project
Polish
RG-50.488*0202

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Janina Krysa, born on December 25, 1928, in Wola Gardzienicka, talks about her experiences in her hometown during World War II. She comments on the relationship between the Jews and the local population and discusses how the locals denied help to the Jews who were seeking shelter and hiding places during the German occupation. She focuses on the daily routine during wartime and the arrest of several local people. In addition, she talks about the Piaski ghetto and her experiences with German soldiers who occasionally came to the town.

[01:] 00:30:00 – [01:] 10:20:59

She talks about life in Wola Gardzienicka in the neighborhood of Piaski; comments on the Jewish families who used to spend their summer vacation in this area before the war; mentions the nonexistence of Jews in her town; discusses the large Jewish community of Piaski; talks about the Jewish tradesmen doing business with the local people of Wola Gardzienicka; comments on the mayor being obligated to report all Jews in hiding; discusses organized Jewish persecution in the area she lived in.

[01:] 10:21:00 – [01:] 20:10:59

She remembers the mayor reporting several Jews; talks about the locals refusing to help the Jews in hiding; comments on the Jews being ordered to leave the area; discusses the German soldiers coming to town to see the mayor and to get free food from the local farmers' markets; mentions the arrest of four residents of Wola Gardzienicka who were accused of helping the Jews; talks about the execution of around seven members of the **Beré [Beć]** family in the nearby forest; comments on the execution being carried out by two German soldiers and without witnesses; remembers that the locals **Sigor, Mańko, Stolarczyk**, and the mayor **Kacperek** were arrested after the war and sentenced to prison in Krasnystaw; she discusses the accusations.

[01:] 20:11:00 – [01:] 27:54:00

She comments on the Jews leaving Wola Gardzienicka after being threatened by the local population; remembers the Piaski ghetto, which was surrounded by wooden fences and barbed wire; talks about Jewish policemen being responsible for the supervision of the ghetto; discusses the evacuation of the Piaski ghetto and the subsequent deportations of the inmates to concentration camps; talks about the arrival of new transports with Jews from different areas; comments on the Jewish-Polish relations in the area before the war; talks about the Jewish tradesmen who came to her town.