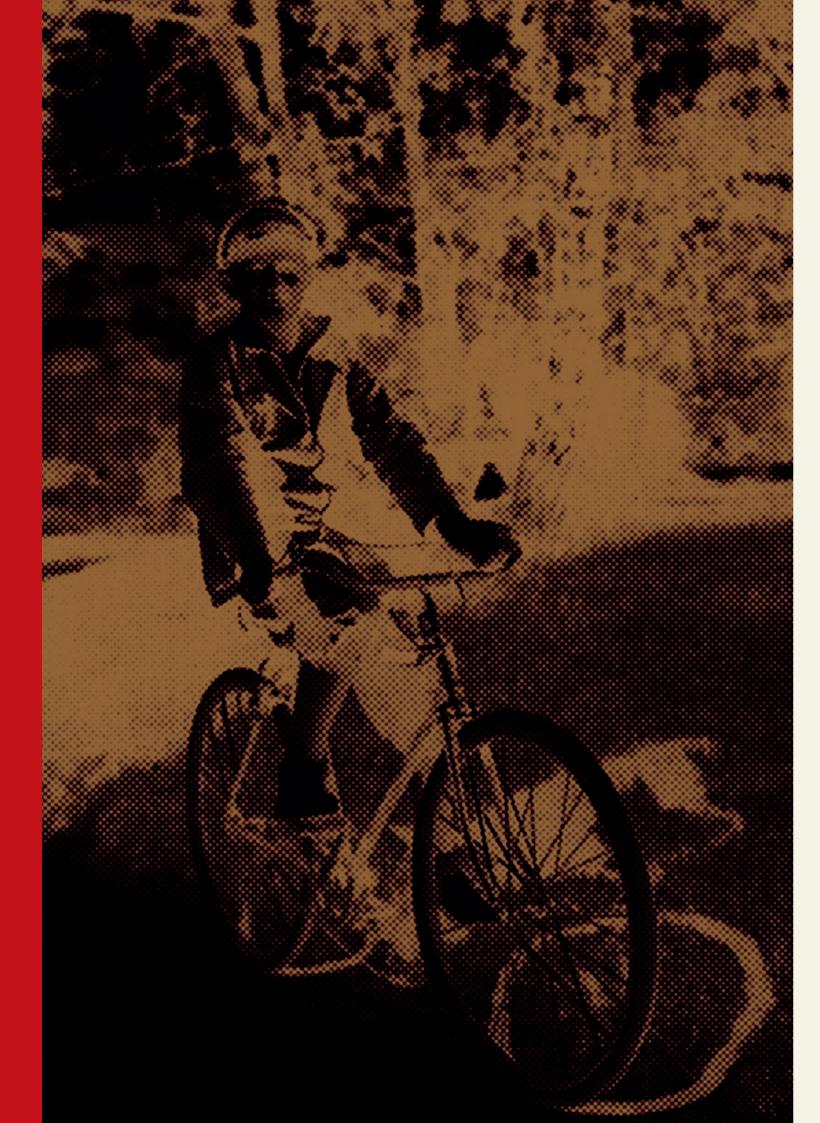
OKRUGHY PAMEGI

Scraps of Memory Bruchstücke an Erinnerung Migajas de Recuerdos La Mémoire en Miettes Brandelli di ricordi Minutiae memoriales

Biography of Bogdan Kajak



The Scraps of Memory – photographs, letters, a diary, school books, documents – material evidence which leads us to get to know a boy the same age - Bogdan Kajak. He was born on September 4, 1922 in Warsaw. The family lived on Nowy Świat, quite close to the Three Crosses Square. Bogdan had a younger sister Hanna. The recovered documents confirm that he attended the Municipal Gymnasium on Młynarska, and, in early 1939, transferred to the Adam Mickiewicz State Lycée and Gymnasium. In family photo albums, we see him at home, among daily leisure occupations, at meetings with friends. We see a smiling and good looking young man who - according to the surviving correspondence was very popular among his female colleagues. The war entered brutally into this carefree and joyful reality. In November 1939, he noted in his diary: "[...] how many changes already, and not only in my personal life, Poland is no more..." There is no return to school after summer vacation - in the occupied Poland, young people are officially allowed to study only in vocational schools. Bogdan, like many of his contemporaries, participates in clandestine education organized by the Polish Underground State. On January 22, 1941, he was arrested for participating in classes held in secret also in his apartment. He was first transported to the Pawiak prison, then – on April 5, 1941 he was taken with a transport of prisoners to the concentration camp Auschwitz. He was given the identification number 12383. He passed away, according to his death certificate issued by the camp doctor, on August 2, 1941 at 6 a.m. The parents were informed by telegram. Four of the letters he wrote to his parents remain; they were written in German, on the official camp paper. Such are the Scraps of Memory, evidence and objects that we use in attempting to reconstruct Bogdan's life. We look at him as someone the same age, our class colleague, whom the war, violent and cruel, deprived of a future.



Childhood and Youth





With his Father.



Student of the Municipal Gymnasium on Młynarska in 1937.



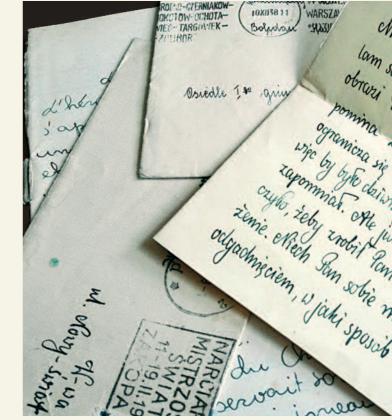


In front of the National Museum in Warsaw in 1938.

With his friends.







With his Mother and Sister.

Personal items.

Szunowny Rimie Bohdamie!!! chime, te Roma Enam od tak medama preva chimo, že toma inam od na medama lam sobie napisao do Gona i mysle, že siz me pomina Iosiz H? Nasra vy Sun sobie pray do jednego spotkama medama inic pommina toris H? externa majornale meden inje bij top deimege geligenege sportkamet meden inge bij top deimege geligenege sportkamet meden inne erken sote in so jedno sportkame inie odgelmisciem under hen sote mie tadage truden jus jedni sposit sposit site mie tadage truden van jedni sposit sposit site mie tadage truden van jedni sposit smidastame under midastame under mad Indastame of the sote

Fragments of the correspondence.

Occupation

Voldni pri merna. Jahre to drime a zavaren motre. Tak is proto moi Tolohn menna, sa tyluo dozanie okupowan memechie. I'd moska jet t S rama .nin pour mena gane milia shac mana, cydnie ungotto.

Fragment of his diary – notes from November 22, 1939.

Schulausweis A Legitymacja szkolna A für das Jahr — na rok 19 Zuname - Imię i nazwisko) wohnhaft amieszkałv(a) AList Schüler(in) Bahnhof jest uczniem(ennica, KOL Stempel der Lehranstalt Pieczatka szkoły Unterschrift der Schulbehörde Podpis władzy szkolnej

V/I gh3 05 Schulausweis A, A7, Dr Fkv Krakau

że paczka zawierająca niezabrane rzeczy p.

1200

maja w lokalu Patronatu Tow. Opieki nad Więźniami i ich rodzinami ul. Marszałkowska 74 m. 11.

Po odbiór paczki należy się zgłosić z dowodem osobistym.

Data stempla pocztowego.

Muzeum Więzienia Pawiak - oddział Muzeum Niepodległości w Warszawie informuje, że w związku z wysadzeniem Pawiaka przez Niemców oraz spaleniem dokumentacji w sierpniu 1944 r., nie zachowała się oryginalna kartoteka więźniów. Nasze archiwum z ewidencją byłych więźniów zostało odtworzone w ok. 50 procentach na podstawie prowadzonych od 1965 r. badań archiwalnych, relacji byłych więźniów i ich rodzin oraz oryginalnych dokumentów, takich jak: listy, karty pocztowe, grypsy, zaświadczenia lekarskie, kwity depozytowe, listy transportowe do obozów koncentracyjnych, zaświadczenia o zwolnieniu lub o śmierci.

W odtwarzanej kartotece byłych więźniów Pawiaka mamy następujące informacje na karcie ewidencyjnej:

"Kajak Bogdan

ur. 4 IX 1922 r. Warszawa. 4 IV 1941 wywieziony do KL Auschwitz - nr 12383. /Źródło: Państwowe Muzeum Oświęcim/ Aresztowany 22 | 1941 r. /Źródło: Muz. Niepodległości, ks. nab. 369/70/

Bogdan Kajak s. Wacława zam. Nowy Świat 8/10 m. 39. Uczeń gimn. Mickiewicza, brał udział w tajnych kompletach, które odbywały się m. in. w jego mieszkaniu. Aresztowany w styczniu 1941 r. wraz z innymi uczniami. Przy aresztowaniu był obecny prac. gestapo Milke. Ojciec próbował bezskutecznie za pośrednictwem Milke wydostać go z Pawiaka. /Źródło: Arch. m. st. Warszawy zespół Sądu Najwyższego t. nr 2183/"

Zarząd Więzienia przy ul. Dzielnej 24 niniejszym zawiadamia Sz. P.,

ZARZAD WIĘZIENIA

Notification to collect his things from the Pawiak prison.

Letter from the Institute of National Remembrance.

Auschwitz

Konzentrationslager Auschwitz

Folgende Anordnungen sind beim Schriftverkehr mit Gefangenen zu beachten:

1.) Jeder Schutzhaftgefangene dart im Monat zwei Briefe oder zwei Karten von seinen Angehörigen empfangen und an sie absenden. Die Briefe an die Gefangenen müssen gut lesbar mit Tinte geschrieben sein und dür-fen nur 15 Zeilen auf einer Seite enthalten. Gestattet ist nur ein Briefbo-gen normaler Größe Briefumschläge müssen ungefüttert sein. In einem Briefe dürfen nur 5 Briefmarken à 12 Pfg. beigelegt werden. Alles andere ist verboten und unterliegt der Beschlagnahme. Postkarten haben 10 Zeilen. Lichtbilder dürfen als Postkarten nicht verwendet werden.

2.) Geldsendungen sind gestattet

3.) Es ist darauf zu achten, daß bei Geld- oder Postsendungen die ge-naue Adresse, bestehend aus: Name, Geburtsdatum, und Gefangenen-Num-mer, auf die Sendungen zu schreiben ist. Ist die Adresse fehlerhaft, geht die Post an den Absender zurück oder wird vernichtet wird vernichtet.

4.) Zeitungen sind gestattet, dürten aber nur durch die Poststelle des K. L Auschwitz bestellt werden.

5.) Pakete dürfen nicht geschickt wer-den, da die Gefangenen im Lager alles kaufen können.

6.) Entlassungsgesuche aus der Schutz-haft an die Lagerleitung sind zwecklos.

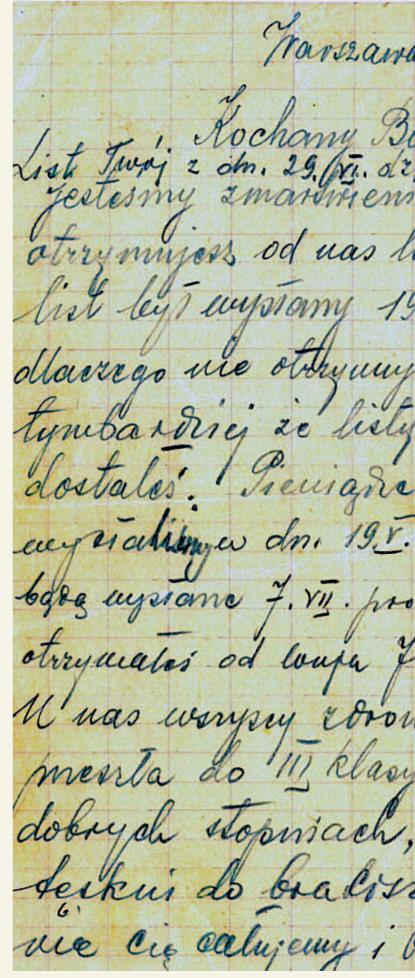
7.) Sprecherlaubnis und Besuche von Gefangenen im Konzentrations-Lager sind grundsätzlich nicht gestattet

Der Lagerkommandant.

Meine diebe Eltern!
Ich bin gesund und fihle mich
wohl ich frage Euch, warring
schreiben Sie keinen Brief?
Das geld habe ich erhalten.
von Euch und Bukel Janek.
Wafür danke ich sehr.
Auch habe ich die Briefen von
Stefa und Eroa erhalten, die
halten mir & viele gemacht.
Ith küsse Euch und Hania.
Herzliche grüsse für ganze Familie,

Meine Anschrift: Schutzhäftling Fole Name: Kajak Bogdan geboren am: 4 - 1x - 1922 Gef.-Nr. 12383 Auschwitz, den: 29. VI - 1941,

Tasia, Ewa und Jammor		
Tasia, Ewa und Jammor Ever Bohdan.		
L. C. Walter		



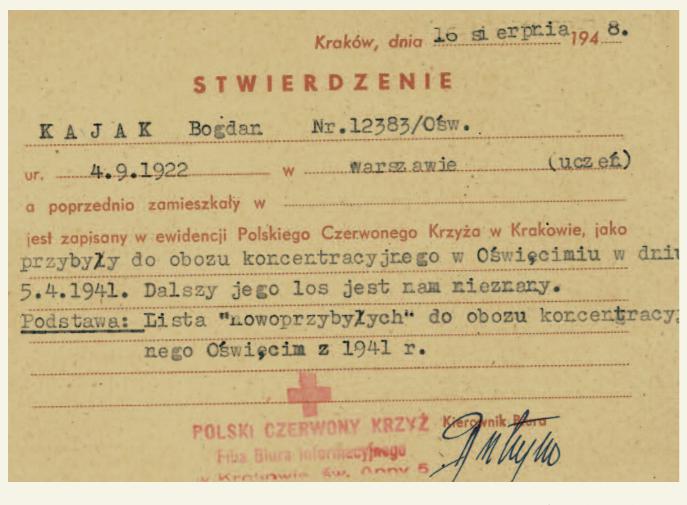
His first letter from Auschwitz.

Travezana dn. 5/ VII. 1941~ al) ec 00 2. N 1 er Lauka own Jamych 10 cetiz

His Parents' answer to the letter of June 29, 1941.

V? 008 Telegramm	Deutsche Post Osten	
	USCHWITZ OS F 1 28/26 2/8 1	959 -
Arfgenommen: Odebrano: ag: Monat: Jahr: Zeit: miesiąc: rok: czas:		Übermittelt : Oddany : Tag : Zeit : dzień : czas :
on: durch: =	WENZEL KAJAK NOWESWIATSTR 8/9	an: durch: do: przez:
Amt: RODUALL	WARSCHAU	
Trad WARSCHAU		
	DAN HEUTE IM KONZENTRATIONSLAGE NAEHERES DURCH DEN KOMMANDEUR	
	SPOLIZEI UND DES SD IM DISTRIKT	
	DER KOMMANDANT +	
		110
VGL WENE	EL KAJAK 8/9 WARSCHAU +-	1 / / / / / · · · ·

Notification of Bogdan's death.



Document from the Red Cross.

Bogdan was our age – reading documents related to him, it was very easy to identify with him. I view WW2 not only as a European tragedy but as an event that ruined this boy's life, his plans for the future, wrecked his entire present.

Working with authentic documents at first seemed like an ordinary school task. Later I discovered how fascinating this work can be. Bogdan's mementos that remained not only talked of times for me quite remote but told the story of a boy who was my age but went through so much more than I did. Oliwia

Our hero was an ordinary teenager from our country before the war. We get to know his life, his interests, plans, and also grasp the motives for his behaviour and his values, so important to him. It is a very precious lesson especially when the youngest generation does not care much for values. Zosia

Our project "Scraps of Memory" was an interesting experience of an encounter with history. It was an excellent opportunity to observe the life of people my age who lived in a completely different period. In Bogdan's tales, they were not on a high pedestal but seem very authentic, ambitious, spontaneous, and full of youthful joy.

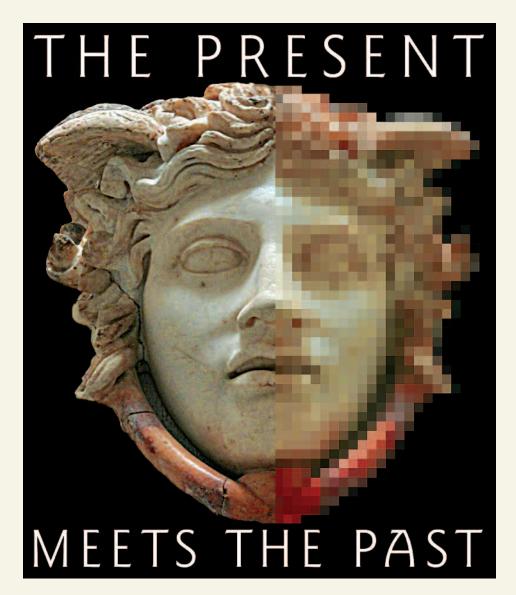
In this project, a systematic, analytical work with authentic documents was an important aspect. We were learning how to choose, analyze, and select information. The abundance of material forced us to format the result of our work properly, maintain a chronology and perfect the style. It was important to us that we did not work on something general but on an authentic story of someone our age.

Working on the project allowed me to learn a lot and increase my knowledge of our past. The possibility of analyzing such old documents brings them back to life and becomes a source of new knowledge.

> High School "Strumienie" students on their participation in the project Józefów, April 25, 2018

Julia

Ula



The project *Scraps of Memory* has been developed in collaboration with the ERC Consolidator Grant (681202) project *Our Mythical Childhood... The Reception of Classical Antiquity in Children's and Young Adults' Culture in Response to Regional and Global Challenges* that received funding from the European Research Council under the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.















