



Hameln - referred to as "Hamelin" in English - is one of many quaint towns along Germany's popular Fairy Tale Road. It is the setting for The Pied Piper of Hamelin (who leads the children out of town for less-than-honorable purposes).

This picture postcard depicts Hameln as it appeared some years ago. Featured in the photo is a street called *Osterstrasse*.

If we dig deep into history, we find evidence that, perhaps, there actually was an event involving a piper and hundreds of children during the summer of 1284:

...according to the old record preserved in the Town-hall of Hameln, the memorable event [of an actual person leading the children of Hameln out of town] occurred on the 22d of June, Anno Domini 1284, and that there was formerly on the wall of the Town-hall the following old and oddly-spelled inscription:

... [verse in German]

Which means in plain English:

*In the year 1284 after the birth of Christ,
There were led out of Hameln
One hundred and thirty children, natives of that place,
By a piper, and were lost under the mountain.
(Frank Leslie's Sunday Magazine, Volume 18, page 236.)*

Kate Greenaway (1846-1901) created this image, circa 1888, which was then engraved by Edmund Evans (1826-1905). It depicts the Pied Piper of Hamelin and is included in *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, published in London by Frederick Warne and Company (at page 41).



Other historians believe that the "Pied Piper" story may be based on the "Children's Crusade" of 1211. Click on the image for a better view.

Credits:

Picture postcard of Hameln, Germany online courtesy Wikipedia.de.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Fairy-Tale-Road-Hamelin-and-the-Pied-Piper1>

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Media Stream



Pied Piper of Hamelin

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Fairy Tale Road - Hamelin and the Pied Piper

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