



The year 1710

The year 1710 – the 15.01.1710 was born Johann Georg Wolfhard – was a year of a terrible famine. The winter 1707/09 was in Europe the coldest winter of the second millennium. The frost started in October 1708 and in June 1709 fell the last snow. In South-Germany was no harvest possible. In summer 1710 matured the first fruits, but very few, because people had eaten the seeds 1709. How You see on the picture the houses were very ailing, they had thin walls and the doors and windows were not dense. Families froze to death in their houses like the cattle in the stables. The wine froze in the cellars. Firewood was precious but it was punishable to collect it in the forests.

The 18th century in Germany was a time of hunger crisis and wars. Poor people (ca. 15%) lived in forests, had no domicile and lived from begging. But in Dueren dependent people had no right of abode because the village was property of a Baron, who lived in a castle in the neighboring place EICHTERSHEIM.



beggar woman with children 1764



beggar, 18, century



castle of EICHTERSHEIM



Shabby houses in 18.century