



sehenswert



ARCHI TEC TURE & BUILDING CULTURE



sehenswert

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The Adler Apotheke (which translates as Eagle Pharmacy) is located in the Old Town Square, alongside numerous shops and eateries that invite you to browse and linger. Within the museum's inner courtyard there is also a charging station for e-bikes.



City Centre,
Old Town
Square,
Steinstraße



Google Maps

300 years of city history

The oldest, and perhaps also the most beautiful half-timbered building in Eberswalde is located at the heart of the city centre, just a few minutes' walk from the Finow Canal. Here, the historic building known as the "Adler-Apotheke" shines with all the splendour of its emblem, the golden eagle, sitting perched above the former corner entrance. Constructed in 1623, the building served as a dwelling and pharmacy for more than 300 years, to which the name of the building still bears witness today. The foundations and cellar vault actually date back to even earlier times. The lovingly restored half-timbered building features typical elements of the Renaissance and is an architectural monument of national significance.

A journey of discovery beneath the eagle.

There is a lot to discover in the city's oldest half-timbered building as the former pharmacy is now home to the museum with exciting permanent and special exhibits showcasing the history of the building, the city, and the region. The building also houses the tourist information office, where visitors can pick up excursion tips as well as reading materials regarding the sights in and around Eberswalde.

New splendour

With the building having sat empty since 1986 and fallen into a dire state of disrepair, it was thoroughly refurbished between 1990 and 1997. This was followed by extensive renovations to make all levels accessible, which were completed in 2014. Since then, the entrance, the stairwell, and the tourist information office have been located inside a modern annexed pavilion, constructed using glass bricks.

A golden nest

It's not just a golden eagle that adorns the building of the former pharmacy. Above the entrance, on the pavilion roof, you can also find the "Adlerhorst" (Eagle's Nest) artwork by Maria Vill and David Mannstein. The branches made from gold-painted copper pipes symbolise milestones in Eberswalde's city history. All of the city's defining moments are represented within the design from the founding of the city to the construction of the Finow Canal and the destruction of the Old Town in World War II. As current events unfold, such as the 25th anniversary of the museum in the Adler-Apotheke in 2022, an additional branch is added to the nest.



Discover 300 years of city history



Further info can be
found here



ADLER APOTHEKE



JUWELIER
ELLING

ORTEL

OPTIC

Hören & Sehen

ORTEL

Hören & Sehen

ORTEL

Old Town Square



Beside the City Hall you will find the Löwenapotheke (Lion Pharmacy), another building that is worth a look; the same goes for the Löwenbrunnen (Lion Fountain) in Marktplatz. There, you will also have the opportunity to visit the weekly market on Tuesdays and Fridays from 08:00 a.m., where you can purchase regional products.



City Centre,
Rathauspassage
(City Hall Ar-
cade), Marktplatz
(Market Square)



Google Maps

Baroque meets Renaissance

The fact that there can be two city halls in one city is not as unusual as one might think. However, the ability to see two city halls from different periods standing right alongside one another is definitely something special. This is the case in Eberswalde, on Breite Straße. From Marktplatz, you can examine the two buildings together and make a direct comparison. The city halls are both historic buildings.

The first building was constructed in the Baroque style in 1775, at the dawn of the industrial revolution, as a community centre and residence for cloth manufacturer Daniel Heller. It has been used by the City of Eberswalde as a City Hall since 1825. The Eberswalde coat of arms that is mounted over the entrance is readily recognisable. A large vaulted roof and rope hoists on the rear façade suggest that the building was also used for commercial purposes. Fifty years after the construction of the building, the city finally instituted it as the City Hall.

The second and younger of the two buildings was built in the early 20th century, in a Neorenaissance style. This is mainly evident in the impressive interior rooms with their decorative wall paintings and due to the elaborate sandstone balustrades. The Neue Rathaus (New City Hall) was constructed between 1903 and 1905, according to plans drawn up by the Berlin-based architects Köhler and Kranz. The first construction phase involved the construction of the seven-axis building on Breite Straße with a courtyard wing to



the rear. The second construction phase, on the corner site where Breite Straße meets Kreuzstraße, was never realised. Therefore, to this day, the former community centre dating back to 1775 continues to serve as the "Altes Rathaus" (Old City Hall).



Further info can be
found here



Two at one glance

RATHÄUSER



Architect

Hermann Wilhelm Albert Blankenstein

Born 1829 near Finowfurt, died 6 March 1906 in Berlin
 Studied at the Berlin Building Academy
 1872 to 1896 Berlin City Planning Director for Structural Engineering
 Sacred buildings: Evangelical-Lutheran Church Berlin, Restoration of St Nicholas' and St Mary's churches in Berlin.



Get an overview

Visit the Pfarrkirche St. Maria Magdalena (St Mary Magdalene Church), a sacred testimony to the city's medieval history, and climb the 28-metre tall church tower for a wonderful view of the city centre. The rare stonewalled church spire is one of the tallest of its kind in all of Germany.

Stunning Brick Gothic

The Eberswalder Stadtpfarrkirche is one of the most important High Gothic churches of the Margravate of Brandenburg. It was built in the 13th century as a triple-nave basilica without a transept, drawing stylistic influence from the Chorin Monastery Church. The porch figures, some of which remain very well preserved, are a unique feature, depicting animal and star symbols as well as biblical scenes. Inside the church, alongside wall paintings from the 16th century, you can also marvel at two Gothic devotional sculptures, a bronze baptismal font (dating back to around 1300), and a Renaissance altar from the 16th century.

In the mid-19th century, the poor state of disrepair rendered the radical reconstruction of the church necessary, which was performed according to plans drawn up by the architect Hermann Wilhelm Albert Blankenstein, who later served as City Construction Councillor for Berlin.

Be blessed with Barbara

You will come across "dicke Barbara" (Fat Barbara) directly in front of the church portal – this is the name of the church's bell, weighing around 36 centners and featuring lavish decorations. The name can be traced back to St Barbara, a patron saint in Christendom. The bell was cast in 1518 and was for a long time heard ringing in the St Mary Magdalene Church. It has been on display in front of the church since 2001. The "Barbara Bell" is adorned with the inscription: "Barbara heiße ich, alle die mich zain und hören, zeint zeelig" (My name is Barbara, all who ring me and hear shall be blessed).

Stunning Brick Gothic

MARIA MAGDALENE KIRCHE



City Centre,
Kirchstraße,
City wall



Google Maps



Make use of the opportunity and climb the first tower for its elevated view (please ask about tours) and start your tour of the nearby Eberswalde residential area from here. Or stop off at the Drachenkopf viewpoint and enjoy the view over the Eberswalde glacial valley.



Further info can be
found here



Architect

Johann Phillip Gerlach

Born 24/07/1679 in Spandau, died 21/09/1748 in Berlin
Completed his service as an Engineer Officer in Prussia.
1720 to 1737 Chief Planning Director for the royal residences in Berlin and Potsdam.
Involvement with numerous church buildings and urban development projects.
Designed the garrison church in Potsdam, which is considered an important example of the Prussian Baroque style, and also the "Kollegienhaus" on Berlin's Lindenstraße (today part of the Jewish Museum).



Combine your visit with a trip to the Maria-Magdalenen-Kirche. Within the immediate vicinity, on Nagelstraße, you can also visit the city wall ruins, another historic highlight. Another tip: On Goethestraße, you can climb the Goethe Steps for a wonderful view over the city.



City Centre, City Walls
Maria-Magdalenen-Kirche



Google Maps

Tradition meets Modernity

Unfortunately, many of the historic structures in the centre of Eberswalde have not remained intact. This is particularly true of the half-timbered buildings. For this reason, these generally tend to be a rare find in Eberswalde. But some do still exist today. Among these exceptions to the rule is the former "alte Pfarrhaus" (Old Rectory). It stands on a small hill above Marktplatz, opposite the Pfarrkirche St.-Maria-Magdalena (St Mary Magdalene Church). This is the former residence of the deacon, and at one time had four parlours, chambers, and a kitchen.

The half-timbered building, which was extensively renovated in the mid-1990s, was originally the work of architect and one-time Royal chief Planning Director Philipp Gerlach. During his lifetime he was also entrusted with the planning of the cutler's settlement, which was to be his final project prior to his death in 1748. Originally, a total of three half-timbered buildings with side-gabled pitched roofs were erected at this site in 1722. The southernmost of the three buildings, the Old Rectory, has been preserved to this day.

During the renovation of the rectory, some of the original structure had to be replaced, however, the floor plan in the five-axis section of the building to the left has been largely retained. A cellar with a barrel vault was also retained beneath the section of the building on the right, which probably stems from the previous construction dating back to 1560. With the renovation of the rectory, the building passed into private ownership.

Other buildings in Eberswalde designed by Philipp Gerlach were torn down around 1860. In their place, the brick rectory and community building located at Kirchstraße 5 was built from 1861 to 1862 according to plans drawn up by District Architect Vogeler from Eberswalde. Upon closer inspection, a Star of David can be seen beneath the roof. The reason why is unknown. As such, this building still offers the unusual opportunity to observe the symbols of two religions together in one place.



Further info can be found here



Half-timbered buildings in Eberswalde

PFARRHAUS





The Paul-Wunderlich-Haus (Paul Wunderlich Building) is located directly on Marktplatz. The house of the confectioner and baker Gustav Louis Zietemann was located here until 1945. Here, he invented Eberswalder Spritzkuchen (Eberswalde Crullers) in 1932. Today you can enjoy Spritzkuchen and other treats on site in Café Gustav.



City Centre,
Marktplatz,
Stadtcampus



Google Maps

Prize-winning cabaret venue

At the heart of the City of Eberswalde, the Paul-Wunderlich-Haus (Paul Wunderlich Building) has been a feature on Marktplatz since July 2007. It includes a total of four adjoining building sections and, with its numerous glass elements, it appears open and transparent from all sides. It was not without reason that the developers and architects received the Brandenburg Architecture Prize in 2008 for the design of the building complex.

The Paul-Wunderlich-Haus is a modern service and administrative centre and is also the administrative seat of the District of Barnim. It was constructed according to plans produced by the architects from the Gesellschaft für Architektur & Projektmanagement mbH in Berlin. The Paul-Wunderlich-Haus was named after the honorary Eberswalde citizen, as well as painter, graphic designer, and sculptor, Paul Wunderlich, who was born in the city in 1927 and died in 2010 in his residence in the Provence. Consequently, two of his sculptures are on display in the building's

inner courtyard. There is also an exhibit dedicated to him inside the building.

However, the Paul-Wunderlich-Haus is not just an administrative building. In addition to small shops, a café also draws in visitors with cakes and tortes. Those who simply want to get away from it all will enjoy the peace and quiet of the building's internal courtyard. The building is also home to permanent and special exhibits of the work of Paul Wunderlich. Tours of the building are also available to anyone who is interested and must be booked in advance. Another permanent fixture is the weekly cultural event, "Guten Morgen Eberswalde" (Good Morning Eberswalde). Every Saturday morning at 10:30 am, the Eberswalde locals as well as guests from further afield are invited to this free cultural event. The calendar of events includes concerts, theatrical performances, and cabaret. Weather permitting, this traditional event is also held on the adjacent Marktplatz or in the nearby Park am Weidendamm during the summer months.

Administration and culture under one roof

PAUL WUNDERLICH HAUS



Further info can be found here





City Centre

Architects

Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron

Both born in 1950 in Basel

Studied architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute for Technology Zurich.

Achieved international renown for their conversion of the Tate Gallery of Modern Art in London.

The architectural firm also designed the "National Stadium" for the Olympic Games in Peking, the Allianz Arena, and Hamburg's Elbe Philharmonic Hall.

Academic life at the heart of the city

Eberswalde is not just a city with ample woodland as the name suggests (Wald = wood/forest), but is also a place of research and learning. For around 200 years this has also been a place of science, with a focus on sustainability. The present-day Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development – Hochschule für nachhaltige Entwicklung Eberswalde, HNEE – was established in 1830 as a higher-level forestry academy. A few years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, studies were able to resume in 1992 outside the gates of Berlin.

Around 2,300 students from almost 60 countries are enrolled within the four faculties: Forest and Environment, Landscape Management and Nature Conservation, Timber Construction, and Sustainable Business. And this happens right in the city centre surrounded by the diverse natural landscape of the District of Barnim. As such, the publicly accessible Stadtcampus (City Campus) is located just a stone's throw from the Marktplatz and in direct proximity to the Park am Weidendamm, where numerous students can be seen studying during the warmer months.

With its key points of focus, the modern university isn't just in keeping with the times, it also boasts a long tradition. This tradition dates back to the former forestry academy, which was based in Eberswalde from 1830 as the teaching facility for the Berlin Humboldt University's Forestry Faculty. At this time, the building now known as the "Old Forestry Academy" was purchased. It was originally

the residence of wealthy Eberswalde businessman David Schickler. Other buildings belonging to the university were once part of Schickler's estate, such as the coach house.

Architectural Innovation

Over the years, the HNEE expanded as an organisation, which explains why the buildings do not appear coherent at first glance. Each building therefore tells its own story and is a one-off piece. For instance, beginning in 1994, the architects Jacques Herzog & Pierre de Meuron began planning the new construction of a seminar and library building for the university. In 1998, the new clinker-bricked seminar building was completed. Since then, this building has been home to the student refectory, alongside other facilities.

The inauguration of the new library followed a year later. And its façade is something truly special. At the time, the building was one of the first in Germany to be printed with photographs. The images that can be seen on the building were captured by photographer Thomas Ruff. These include the striking scenes of people jumping from windows on Bernauer Straße in Berlin in 1961, the year the Berlin Wall was erected. Motifs from the reunification at the Brandenburg Gate are also featured. On the whole, this "image cladding" actually lends a certain lightness to this huge building. The new library building thus represents an exceptional project by Herzog & de Meuron and was awarded the Brandenburg Architecture Prize in 1999.

Study sustainably in image-clad library



Further info can be
found here



STADT CAMPUS



City Centre,
Friedrich-Ebert-Str.,
Park am Weidendamm



Google Maps



The Park am Weidendamm and
Schwärze stream lie directly be-
hind the campus, inviting you for
a relaxing stroll. Small cafés pro-
vide the refreshments required
for further exploration.



Architect

Vinzenz Statz

Born 09/04/1819 in Cologne, died 21/08/1898 in Cologne.

Was named a Baumeister (master builder) in 1861, without having completed the customary academic training.

Was a well-known and influential architect of the New Gothic period and worked on numerous churches and church buildings during his lifetime. He was involved in the construction of Cologne Cathedral and was the architect for the new cathedral in Linz (Austria).



Further info can be found here



The building is located right beside the new Forestry Academy. The red brick makes it hard to believe that they belong together. Directly opposite, you can breathe deeply and enjoy a break in the lush green Park am Weidendamm by the Schwärze stream. There, you can also marvel at a variety of sculptures by various artists.



City Centre,
Weidendamm,
Schwärze Valley



Google Maps

Brick Gothic by Statz

The Roman Catholic Church of St Peter and Paul is in close proximity to the Park am Weidendamm, on Schicklerstraße in the historic city centre. It is a comparatively new church, having been built in a North German Brick Gothic style between 1876 and 1877. Seven years prior to this, the church council approved the plans drawn up by the renowned Cologne-based “church and cathedral architect” Vincent Statz. After a construction period lasting just 15 months, the only church building by Statz in what was then the Province of Brandenburg was handed over and consecrated to St Peter and Paul.

The continuously growing Catholic community in the mid-19th century, in what was then the District of Upper Barnim, initially funded a first missionary house in Eberswalde from donations, a method of funding that would

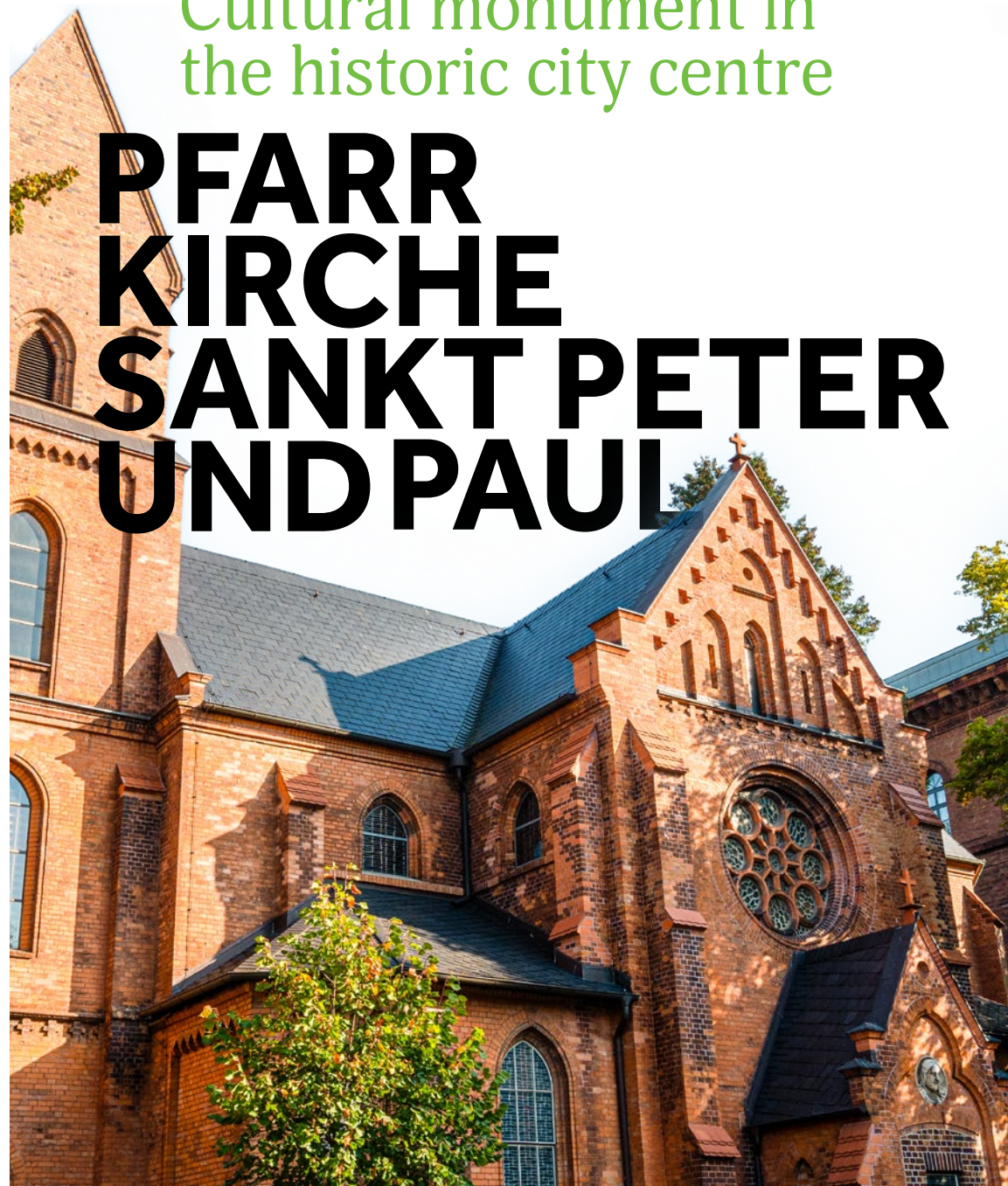
have been considered a thoroughly modern approach in light of the circumstances at the time. In 1851, more than twenty years prior to the construction of the new church, a first church service had already been held there by the newly founded Eberswalde Catholic congregation.

Reconstruction

Like many other buildings in the Eberswalde city centre, the parish church was also destroyed by bombing raids and ground assaults during the Second World War. After 1945, the church was rebuilt in several sections and has been a protected cultural monument since 1992. Today, the Eberswalde Parish unites the Catholic communities of Eberswalde, Finow, Bad Freienwalde, and Wriezen.

Cultural monument in the historic city centre

PFARR KIRCHE SANKT PETER UND PAUL





ALTE FORSTAKADEMIE

City Campus



On account of its beauty and popularity, the Märchenvilla (Fairytale Villa) has become a genuine "hot spot" for wedding ceremonies. As such, encountering a happy couple is anything but unusual. However, even without the nuptials, you can capture some unforgettable photographs here.



Schwärze Valley,
Brunnenberge,
Weidendamm



Google Maps

A golden-yellow radiance

It shines in an elegant yellow colour and stands enthroned over Brunnenstraße – the Märchenvilla. The stunning country house is hard to miss and a real eye-catcher as well as the perfect backdrop for photos. You instantly feel as though transported into a Brothers Grimm fairytale.

A moving history

The villa was built in 1833 by Johann-Friedrich Dictus, the son of a Berlin wool manufacturer. Since 1836 it has been surrounded by an artistically landscaped park, with wells and several fairytale sculptures. Over the years this also gave the building, which is built in a classical style, its name. From "Landhaus im Dictus-Park" (Country House in Dictus Park) to "Villa-Märchen" (Villa Fairytale), the name "Märchenvilla" (Fairytale Villa) finally became established.

From 1878, the Märchenvilla was altered and expanded, with a view to being used as a spa hotel. For at the end of the 19th century, Eberswalde was still a spa resort. At the time, the well that still exists today was built especially for the spa building, with the water draining into the nearby Schwärze stream.

After World War II, the building threatened to fall into a state of disrepair, before it was finally rescued from total dereliction from 2002 onwards. Since 2004, the extensively restored gem has been shining in renewed splendour and since then has been home to the Eberswalde Registry Office. This includes an incredibly beautifully designed wedding venue and a historic banquet hall. It is therefore little wonder that, in 2014, the Märchenvilla was crowned Germany's most beautiful registry office.



Further info can be
found here



Get married in a
dreamlike setting

MÄRCHEN VILLA





Having taken in all the buildings and architecture, your next stop is the Forstbotanischen Garten (Forest Botanical Garden), where you can immerse yourself in nature, or you could pay a visit to the nearby Eberswalde Zoo. One of the most beautiful little zoos in all of Germany.



Schwärze Valley,
Forstbotanischer
Garten,
Zoological Garden



Google Maps



Of metal and bone

In the middle of the Schwärze Valley, and right alongside the Eberswalde Forest Botanical Garden, stands the Zainhammer Mühle (Zainhammer Mill). In 1779, the mill commenced production of long, pulled iron bars, so-called “Zainen”, from which the mill also derives its name. The water of the Schwärze powered a hammer mill, via a system of gearwheels and shafts, in order to manufacture the bars from heated raw iron. The iron refined in this way was used by knife smiths in suburban Eberswalde as a source material for knives, nails, and tools.

Around 1824, the small-scale cutlers gradually disappeared from the city, and from this point on the iron bars were no longer required. The Zainhammer Mill had to adapt and thus began the production of meal from animal bones, which was used in agriculture as an organic fertiliser. However, the bone

distillery business was not only foul smelling, but also dangerous. As a result of this, the mill burnt to the ground in October 1866. This marked the beginning of the next era for the Zainhammer Mühle. Following its reconstruction, it was used as a flour mill until the mid-20th century. Today, the iron shafts and vast bevel wheels still testify to the technology once used there.

Culture moves in

Since 1987, the protected building has belonged to the “Die Mühle” (The Mill) art association. Various events are held there each year, such as the Christmas art market in the second week of Advent, and “Sommer in der Mühle” (Summer in the Mill) from May until October. Various exhibits and concerts are also held here throughout the year.

From iron forge to- cultural centre

ZAINHAMMER MÜHLE



Further info can be
found here



Mansion District



Architect

Johann Friedrich Wedding

Born 13/03/1759 in Seedorf near Lenzen, Brandenburg, died 21/09/1830 in Kattowitz. Studied mechanical engineering in Berlin and was subsequently employed in the Prussian civil service

Planned and oversaw the construction of the Gliwice ironworks and the Königshütte foundry. Was involved in the extensive renovation of the Brass Factory (from 1804), and the Kupferhammer smelting works and Eisenspalterei rolling mill in the Finow Valley (from 1816).

Industrial Revolution

The Altes Walzwerk (Old Rolling Mill) dates back to the 17th century and was used for metal processing until 1992. This marked the beginning of Eberswalde's industrial heyday. At this time, the Drahthammer Lock on the Finow Canal, the Messingwerk (Brass Factory), and the Eisenspalterei (Iron Splitting Works) were also constructed. At the time, the term iron splitting works (Eisenspalterei) was used to refer to the process whereby a cutting tool split heated, roll-formed iron bars, so that they could then be further processed to produce small profile parts.

In 1780, the Prussian State took over the running of the Eisenspalterei and gradually began making structural improvements. These included the architecturally noteworthy factory building, which was built between 1816 and 1818 over a ditch. The architectural design was most likely produced by the Oberhütte Construction Director at the time, Johann Friedrich Wedding, who also produced plans for the stylistically similar copper rolling mill in Eberswalde. The classical façade with its three striking, symmetrical gables, which has been restored to almost its original condition, still testifies to the exacting design requirements.

Post-industrial use

The traces of Eberswalde's past industrial history are still visible today. The location where heavy work was previously performed by machines has been home to the Familiengarten (Family Garden) ever since the State Horticultural Show in 2002. The expansive park on the former industrial site on the Finow Canal can be explored on foot and offers the whole family the chance to have fun and get some exercise. A pedal boat trip through the former arches of the Altes Walzwerk is another attraction on offer. The symbol of the Familiengarten is the Eberkran assembly crane. From its viewing platform, visitors can enjoy a stunning view stretching far into the Barnim countryside.

The Altes Walzwerk still exists on the site of the Familiengarten, but is now referred to as the Blechenhaus. This name refers to the artist Carl Blechen. His artwork, "Walzwerk Neustadt Eberswalde", is based on the design of the Altes Walzwerk. Incidentally, it is one of the first drawings depicting industry in German art history. The Blechenhaus also houses the workshop of a metal designer and sculptor and an exhibition room, both of which can be visited.

Following the traces of Industrial History



Further info can be found here



ALTES WALZWERK



The Altes Walzwerk is located in the "Familiengarten Eberswalde" park. The new rolling mill is also located there. It can be viewed from the other side of the Finow Canal, on the Drahthammer Lock. The Family Garden is exceptionally well-suited for a day trip with the family.



Familiengarten, Drahthammer Lock, Treidelweg



Google Maps



Architect

Johann Friedrich August Borsig

Born 23/06/1804 in Breslau, died 06/07/1854 in Berlin.
Studied at the Neue Berliner Eisengießerei (New Berlin Iron Foundry) under Franz Anton Egells, founder of the Borsig plant in Berlin.
Was known as a locomotive builder and established a monopoly in Prussia.



This industrial ruin is now empty and cannot be entered. On the waterway, you can get as close to it as anyone, but it is also worth a look from the bank on the other side of the river.



Familiengarten,
Finow Canal,
Treidelweg



Google Maps

Ahead of its time

You can get fairly close to the Borsighalle (Borsig Hall Ironworks) by taking the boat across the Finow Canal. A mobile and reusable structure, the factory hangar had already stood in several different locations prior to becoming established in Eberswalde. It was originally located in the Borsig plant in the Berlin borough of Moabit, where it was built between 1847 and 1849 according to plans produced by architect August Borsig, presumably as a prototype to assess suitability. Having been dismantled 1899, it was relocated from the Moabit plant to a new location, close to Tegel Castle, at the site now known as Borsig Field. There it was dismantled again and shortly thereafter rebuilt in Eberswalde around 1900 as part of the expansion of the Altes Walzwerk. This was at the Eisen-spalterei (iron splitting factory) by the Finow Canal, directly opposite what is now the Familiengarten, where it was initially used for the processing of scrap iron. After 1945, “billets” were stored in the Borsighalle, that is, iron blocks that were waiting

to be rolled. It was for this reason that the name “Knüppelhalle” (billet hall) came into use. The structure was later also used as a coal store. Since 1993, the Borsighalle has been left empty and it recently received a new roof to stop it from falling into further disrepair. It features a so-called “barrel construction” with lean-to roofs on either side. The supporting structure consists of eight semi-circular iron lattice arch girders with a span width of around 21 metres.

A prototype “Made in Eberswalde”

Coincidentally, this is also what makes this type of hangar so special: the unsupported interior space that can be expanded as desired. The Borsighalle in Eberswalde can thus be viewed as a prototype for the method of construction used in arched halls for railway stations and factories in Europe throughout the 19th century. It became a blueprint for the industrial architecture of its time.



Further info can be found here



A blueprint for railway stations

BORSIG HALLE



Architect

Walter Adolf Georg Gropius

Born 18/05/1883 in Berlin, died 05/07/1969 in Boston, MA, USA. Studied architecture and then worked on a self-employed basis. Foundation of the Bauhaus Movement in 1919 in Weimar. Considered a pioneer of international modernist architecture. Involved with the urban planning (from 1959) for the large-scale Berlin development of Britz-Buckow-Rudow, today known as "Gropiusstadt", as well as several buildings within this development.



Weimar in Eberswalde

Not far from the Finow Canal, at Altenhofer Straße 2, stands a building that wrote international architectural history – the Kupferhaus (Copper House). It was developed by Walter Gropius, the famous architect and founder of the Bauhaus Movement in Weimar. Gropius was a pioneer of international modernist architecture. He was fascinated by modern housing designs that he had discovered at the 1931 German Construction Exhibition in Berlin. In the same year, the concept of pre-fabricated houses with copper elements caused a furore at the Colonial Exhibition in Paris.

Gropius developed this type of house further and was therefore a pioneer in the field of pre-fabricated house building. For the first time ever, it was now possible to build houses within a very short period of time. Another advantage was that copper houses could be packed into several crates and reconstructed at the new location within just a few days. The natural properties of the copper provided another special feature, as it effectively insulated the building. Copper houses were

also an export hit. There are even four such houses still in existence in Israel, in Haifa and Safed.

Built for life

The copper houses in Finow are square buildings with a pavilion roof, which form part of the Messingwerk-Siedlung, not far from the Finow Water Tower. One of them was built in 1932 and bears the name "Sorgenfrei" (care-free). The 36 m² living space includes two bedrooms, a kitchen/dining room, and a small bathroom. In comparison to the other copper houses in Finow, this building has remained practically unchanged, with even the copper covering on the roof still in its original condition. Incidentally, Walter Gropius with his copper houses was not the only Gropius to make his mark in Eberswalde. His great uncle and architect Martin Gropius has also worked in the city, on the Finow Canal to be precise: He was the architect for the hospital that bears his name, in the suburb of Nordend.



The Kupferhaus (Copper House) stands almost directly at the foot of the water tower. Other buildings within the Messingwerksiedlung (Brass Factory Estate) are likewise just a few metres away. The "Treidelweg" hiking and cycling path runs along the Finow Canal, connecting the area to the city centre 7.5 kilometres away.



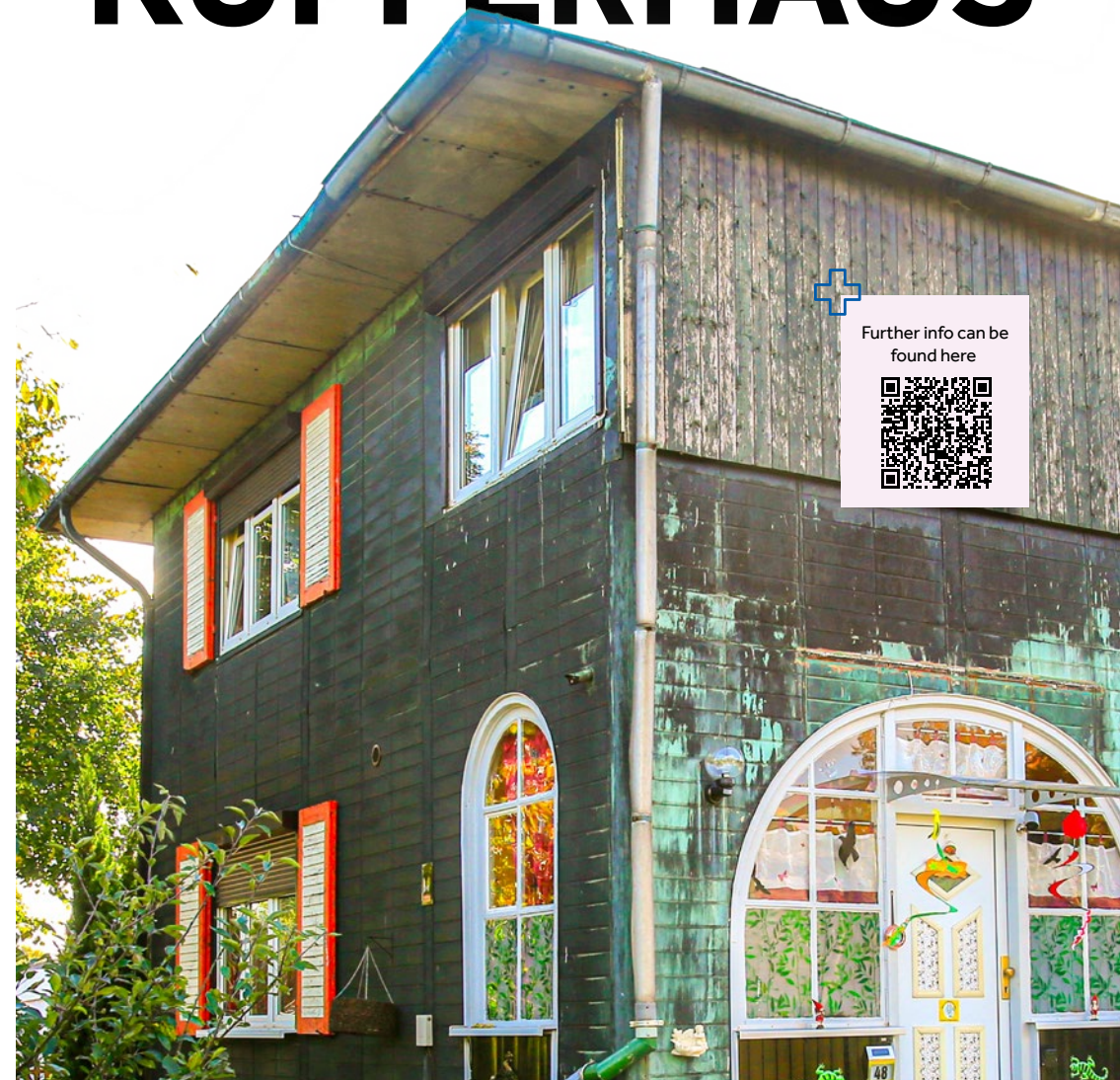
Messingwerksiedlung, Wasserturm, Treidelweg



Google Maps

Bauhaus in Eberswalde

KUPFERHAUS



Further info can be found here



When Expressionism reaches to the heavens

It is just under 50 metres tall and rests on four striking and massive pillars, ensuring that it catches the eye even from afar: The Water Tower in the Eberswalde district of Finow. The yellow brick-clad structure on the outskirts of the Messingwerk-Siedlung (Brass Factory Estate) was constructed according to plans by the architect Paul Mebes in 1918. The imposing tower was used to supply water to the estate until 1964.

The Wasserturm is considered one of the earliest examples of brick expressionism in Germany. Its truly unique architecture is characterised by a so-called 'groined vault', which rests on top of the four pillars. A cylindrical water container made of reinforced concrete sits on top of this. A spiral staircase inside one of the tower's pillars leads to a circumferential viewing platform. From here you can look out far into the Finow Valley and, on a clear day, you can even make out the Berlin Television Tower. The tower is finished at the top with a jagged battlement, which is positioned above the viewing platform. Climbing

the tower is actually worthwhile twice over: Alongside the impressive view, there is also an exhibit highlighting the building's history inside the Water Tower.

The Brass Age

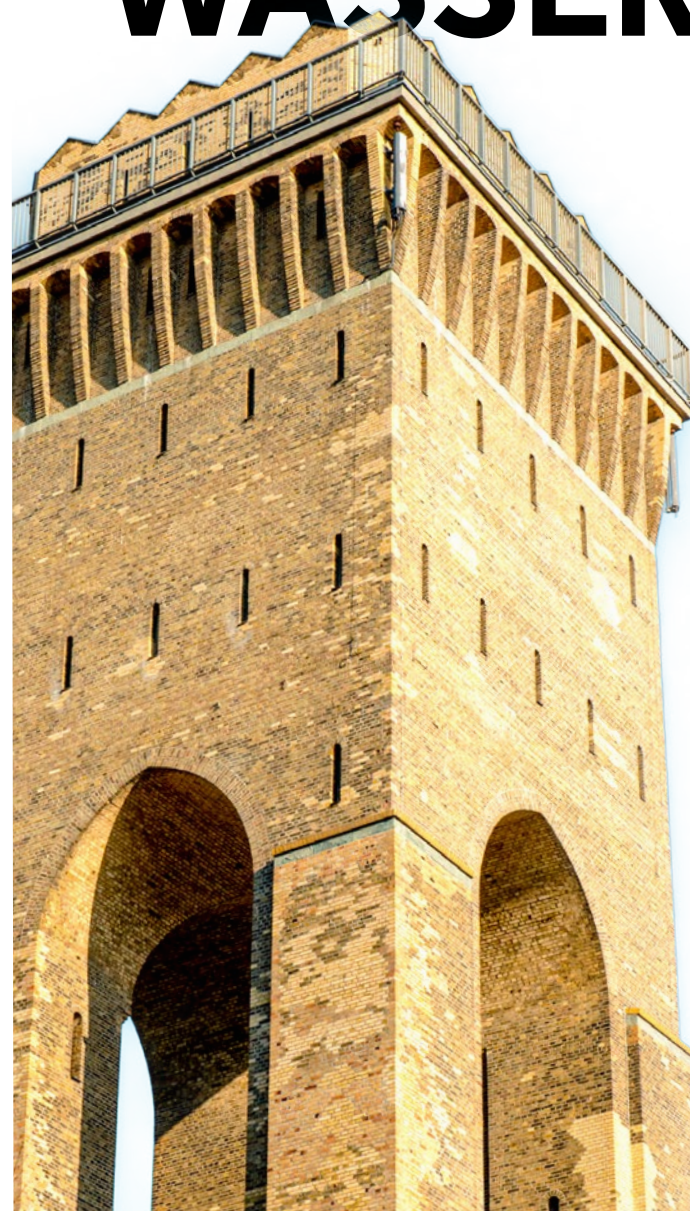
Following its construction, the Wasserturm became a symbol of the nearby brass factory. Twenty years after its completion, in 1938, a memorial to the fallen soldiers of the First World War was erected between its pillars. The small commemorative hall remains unchanged to this day.

Thanks to the commitment of the "Finower Wasserturm und sein Umfeld e.V." association (Friends of the Finow Water Tower and its Surrounding Area), as well as extensive funding and donations, the tower underwent renovations from 2004 until 2007. A lift was also installed, meaning that, for a number of years now, it has been possible to reach the viewing platform without having to exhaust yourself.



Views reaching as far as Berlin

WASSERTURM



Tours are possible, subject to booking, and the Wasserturm is fully accessible as far as the 2nd floor. The tower is one of four stations of the Eberswalde Höhenpass selection of elevated viewpoints.

The others are the Eberkran assembly crane in the Family Garden, the Mary Magdalene Church in the city centre, and the Tigerturm (Tiger Tower) at the zoo.



Messingwerk, Finow Canal, Treidelweg



Google Maps



Further info can be found here



Architect

Paul Louis Adolf Mebes

Born 23/01/1872 in Magdeburg, died 09/04/1938 in Berlin.
 Studied architecture in Braunschweig and Charlottenburg (Berlin).
 Dedicated himself primarily to residential construction and housing development.
 With his firm, he designed the Messingwerksiedlung (Brass Factory Estate), with its worker's houses, the production halls of the new brass factory, the "Torbogenhaus" as an administrative building, and the conversion of the Hirsch manufacturer's residence.

Industrial History and Lifestyle

It is the oldest factory estate in Brandenburg: the Messingwerk-Siedlung (Brass Factory Estate) in the Eberswalde district of Finow. It was built more than 300 years ago and remains in very good condition to this day. As such, the Messingwerk-Siedlung, together with other architectural monuments on the Finow Canal, are among the most important witnesses to the industrial culture within the state.

What makes the area special: The site was not just a place of work, but also a centre of life for the people who worked there and their families. There were homes, a pub, a school, and also areas used for agricultural purposes. The former brass factory was constructed at the end of the 17th century and was purchased by the Hirsch family in 1863, an entrepreneurial Jewish family that made a lasting mark on the city.

Having taken on armaments orders during the First World War, Hirsch AG subsequently went from strength to strength economically. During this time the brass factory and

the associated settlement were also significantly expanded. Among the new buildings were the Hirsch manufacturer's residence and the production halls of the new brass factory. The plans for this were produced by Berlin-based architects Paul Mebes and Paul Emmerich. They had architecturally appealing homes built on Gustav-Hirsch-Platz, as well as the "Torbogenhaus", which housed the former administrative buildings.

In 1913, during the construction work on the dwellings on what is now Gustav-Hirsch-Platz, the famous "Eberswalder Goldschatz" (Eberswalde Hoard) was discovered. It still remains the largest discovery of pre-historic gold in Germany to this day. It includes eight golden bowls, jewellery, and 73 other objects made of gold. As a memorial, the Eberswalde Rotary Club had a column designed by Eberswalde-based metal artist Eckhard Herrmann erected close to the site of the discovery in 2007. The valuable hoard itself was brought to the former Soviet Union at the end of the Second World War and is now stored in Moscow's Pushkin Museum. A replica can be viewed in the Eberswalde Museum in the Adler-Apotheke.



The Hirsch family and the Messingwerksiedlung are just one part of Eberswalde's Jewish history, and there are a few things to be discovered here! The "Wasserturm" (Water Tower) and the copper houses are in immediate proximity, with the latter also forming part of the settlement's industrial history.



Wasserturm,
 Finow Canal,
 Treidelweg



Google Maps



Further info can be found here



Living and working in one location

MESSINGWERK SIEDLUNG



Other Architecture in Eberswalde

Werner Forßmann Hospital

At the end of the 19th century, Theodor Goecke designed the “Auguste Victoria Home”, now known as the Werner-Forßmann-Krankenhaus (Werner Forßmann Hospital). The original medical centre is a real eye-catcher, featuring numerous architectural highlights: timber framing on the top floor, a tower, and balconies featuring arches. However, the extension drawing influence from Heimatschutz architecture is worth a look.



MORE INFO

Gesamtschule Mitte (Central Comprehensive School)

In the 1920s the architect Otto Kulmann designed the Eberswalde Oberrealschule (now the Gesamtschule Mitte) on August-Bebel-Straße. The school was designed as a symmetrical, three-wing building and features traditional style elements found in prestigious school buildings. For example, the building features exceptional elevation stucco.



MORE INFO

Paper Machine Production Hall (Wolfswinkel Paper Factory)

Another monument to the city’s former industrial history is the paper machine production hall of the Wolfswinkel Paper Factory. Today the 85-metre-long hall with large windows falls more within the “Lost Places” category. However, the fact that the factory was also commissioned by the Siemens-Schuckert plant gives an idea as to how important the production hall once was. The architect was none other than the urban planner behind Berlin’s Siemensstadt quarter, Hans Hertlein. His industrial, social, and residential buildings were of global architectural significance.



MORE INFO

St Theresia

Within the Finow district, the Catholic Church of St Theresia was built in 1934 on Bahnhofsstraße. The architect, Josef Bachem, was known for the construction of Catholic churches, which he designed in the Expressionist style. The church in Finow also has design features typical of the style, such as mottled clinker bricks.



MORE INFO

Martin-Gropius-Krankenhaus (Martin Gropius Hospital)

The building, made of yellow unrendered brick with bands of red brick, has been considered innovative and unusual every since it was built in the mid-19th century. One reason for this, aside from the architecture, was the functional construction method and the consideration given to open spaces. Examples of architecturally significant features include the covered transitions between buildings, which paved the way for the pavilion construction style that would later become commonplace. The architect also now lends his name to the hospital and thus another Gropius who designed buildings in Eberswalde.



MORE INFO

Heegermühle Power Station

Today, what was previously a pioneering building falls more readily into the “Lost Places” category. However, it is still worth a look for a glimpse at the Finow Canal’s bygone industrial history. The buildings facing the Finow Canal were divided up according to function during their construction and their layout was optimised. This was a rather uncommon practice at the beginning of the 20th century. The functional architecture and simple brick façades were revolutionary in their day.



MORE INFO

Zoogaststätte (Zoo Restaurant)

The architect Ulrich Müther was known for his buildings with concrete shell supporting structures. One such building can be marvelled at in the Eberswalde Zoo. The zoo restaurant makes an impression with its glazed walls, providing diners with an unobstructed view. This also makes the building feel airier and more spacious on the inside. In addition to the building in Eberswalde, there are two identical restaurants in Thuringia and on the island of Rügen. The latter two are protected buildings.



MORE INFO

Stadtvilla Dr. Braasch (Dr Braasch Urban Villa)

Within the residential district, one building is particularly surprising. The Stadtvilla Dr. Braasch, designed by architectural firm gmp. It was built in a gap between buildings and had to fit in with the existing development. The house is named after the client, Dr Braasch, who had taken a job in Eberswalde in the early 1990s. On account of its position within the residential district, and the associated adjustment considerations, a detached house was not possible, as a result of which a residential building on four levels was built, with a total of four dwellings. One striking detail is the external staircase on the street side, as well as the arched roof. Other well-known buildings designed by the architectural firm are Berlin’s Tegel Airport and Berlin Central Station.



MORE INFO

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