



Wasserschloss Wülmersen - More than 900 years old....

The medieval castle at Wülmersen, at the northern tip of the German federal state of Hesse, has been situated along the banks of the Diemel river for more than 900 years. The hall of this structure served as the residence of the aristocratic von Stockhausen family. Cows, horses, and pigs were kept in stables and barns belonging to the complex. The castle was surrounded by fields and meadows which were used for agriculture and worked by more than 70 people. It was built in various phases from the 12th to the 19th century. Sandstone, oak timber, and clay were used in its construction. A small brook, known as Holzape, flows past the castle and provided water for a large adjacent ditch reminiscent of a moat, thus giving the structure its German name *Wasserschloss* ("moated castle").

Although the von Stockhausens eventually moved their residence elsewhere, agriculture continued to play a part here until 1960. After the Second World War, the property was sold and partitioned to create seven smaller farms. These were inhabited by families who had been displaced at the end of the war and were thus given the opportunity to start anew. By the mid-1980s, however, the oldest buildings of the complex had become unusable and derelict.


Then, in 1986, local politicians and involved citizens founded an association dedicated to rebuilding this historic landmark. A publically funded program was initiated in which unskilled and unemployed youths worked together with experienced craftsmen and artisans to reconstruct parts of the complex. Lasting from 1987 to 2005, the project was funded largely by the Office for the Preservation of Historic Buildings, which also provided advice.

Since 2005, the castle has belonged to Kassel County. It now houses workshops in which young people can obtain vocational training. It also contains a hostel, a camping site for groups, and a museum of agriculture and rural life.

The museum is open between May and October
Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Jugend- und Freizeiteinrichtungen Eigenbetrieb Landkreis Kassel

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