



# Route of Industrial Heritage Neumünster

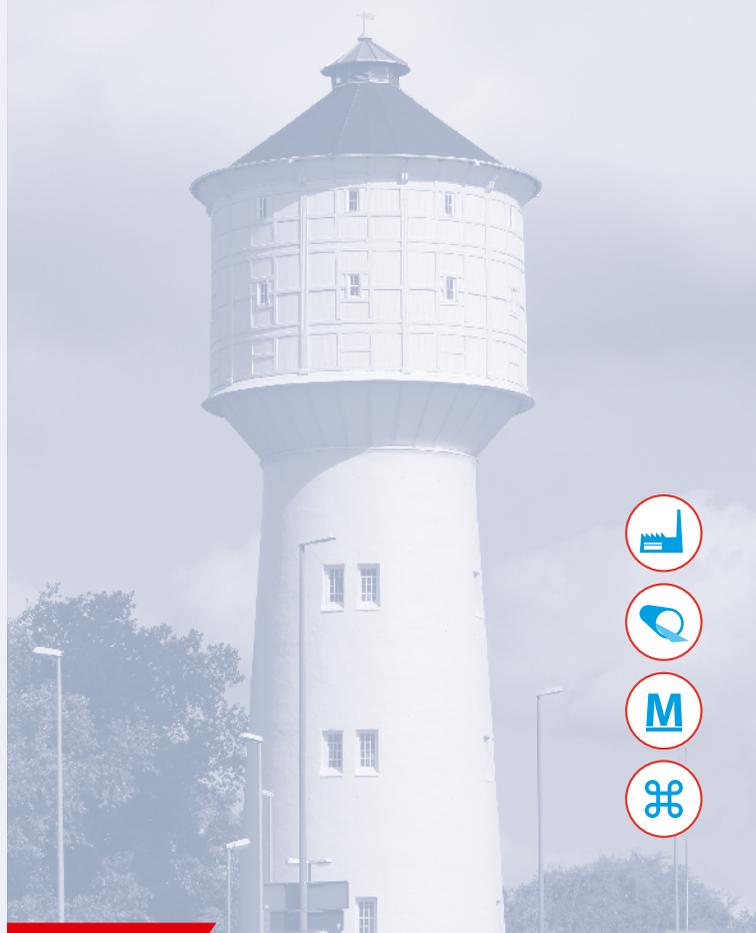
25 industrial heritage sites

## Routes of Industrial Heritage in the Hamburg Metropolitan Region

Since 2011 the “Days of Industrial Heritage along the Water” are hosted by the Hamburg Metropolitan Region. During this event more than 100 industrial heritage sites between Cuxhaven and Parchim and between Neumünster and Uelzen put together a special programme. With the help of the Routes of Industrial Heritage you can explore the history of economics and technology as well as the social history of the industrial age on your own: on foot, by bike, by train or by car.

## Further information

You will find more information at the industrial heritage museums of the region, the local tourist information offices and on the site [www.tagederindustriekultur-hamburg.de](http://www.tagederindustriekultur-hamburg.de)



## 25 industrial heritage sites in Neumünster

Since 1929 factory chimneys have been part of Neumünster's coat of arms because the city had always been proud of these symbols for power and progress. But with the global economic crisis starting shortly after, the industrial basis of the city began to fall apart. There was a brief recovery period after WW II but especially the decline of the leather and clothing industry in the 1960s had battered Neumünster terribly. More than 7.000 jobs were lost in these two sectors and the city's unemployment rate skyrocketed to 5.7%, one of the reasons being the high wages in Germany. The average unemployment rate throughout Germany back then was at 0.9%. Today Neumünster is back on track and stronger and more stable than ever thanks to a successful business settlement policy: a diverse business location with predominantly small and medium-sized enterprises and thanks to its central and convenient location still of unchanged importance for the logistics sector.

**After the clothing and leather industry were gone** the decline also reached the fashion industry: first the Bekleidungswerke AG Emil Köster had to close down in 1975 followed by the formerly booming factory Hermann Marsian only two years later. The producer of a clothing line for women named "Maris" was established in 1947 and still employed 1.735 people in 1965. A similar fate was experienced by the Phrix-Werke AG (later called Norddeutsche Faserwerke GmbH): with a workforce of more than 1.300 people synthetic fibres were produced here but the factory was shut down in 2004 because the competition from overseas had become too strong. Only one affiliated company founded in 1948, the Neumünstersche Maschinen- und Apparatebau Gesellschaft mbH (Neumag), still exists in Neumünster today now being part of the Swiss Oerlikon AG. This company builds facilities for synthetic fibre production and exports them worldwide.

**The mechanical engineering industry in Neumünster** is almost as old as the textile industry. Already the old cloth makers had their machines produced and repaired here and the weavers had settled here because of the central location along several trade routes and because of the soft water of the Schwale river. Back then it was common that all members of a family were working for one textile



manufacturer. Spinners from the surrounding areas supplied the yarn. At the beginning of the 19th century many cloth makers had so much money that they were able to invest in machines and buildings and that way the first cloth mills were created. Artificial roads and especially the railway lines through Neumünster accelerated the positive economic development. In 1844 the railway from (Hamburg-)Altona to Kiel started operating, later followed by branch lines to Heide, Rendsburg, Ascheberg, Bad Segeberg and Kaltenkirchen. The road transport was developed in a similar fashion. Another positive development was the entry into the German customs union in 1867 and the economic rise of the country after the German Empire was established in 1871.

**The city grew rapidly** and several new neighbourhoods were developed during that time. With a population of 7.800 people in 1864 the population rose to 27.000 in 1900. Today 77.000 people live in Neumünster. Gaslight was introduced in 1857, in 1870 the city received its town charter and in 1872 the city established its own garrison. During that time the leather industry that had emerged from the tanneries saw a strong upturn. The downsides of the industrialisation were the difficult living conditions for the workers: women and children had to contribute to the family income and were used as cheap labourers. Child labour was prohibited only in 1891. And the bad hygienic conditions only improved with the launch of drinking water supplies in 1900, followed by the installation of sewer systems 5 years later.

Traces of the city's past can still be found everywhere today so come and explore the industrial culture of Neumünster along the 25 sites!



factories



water technology

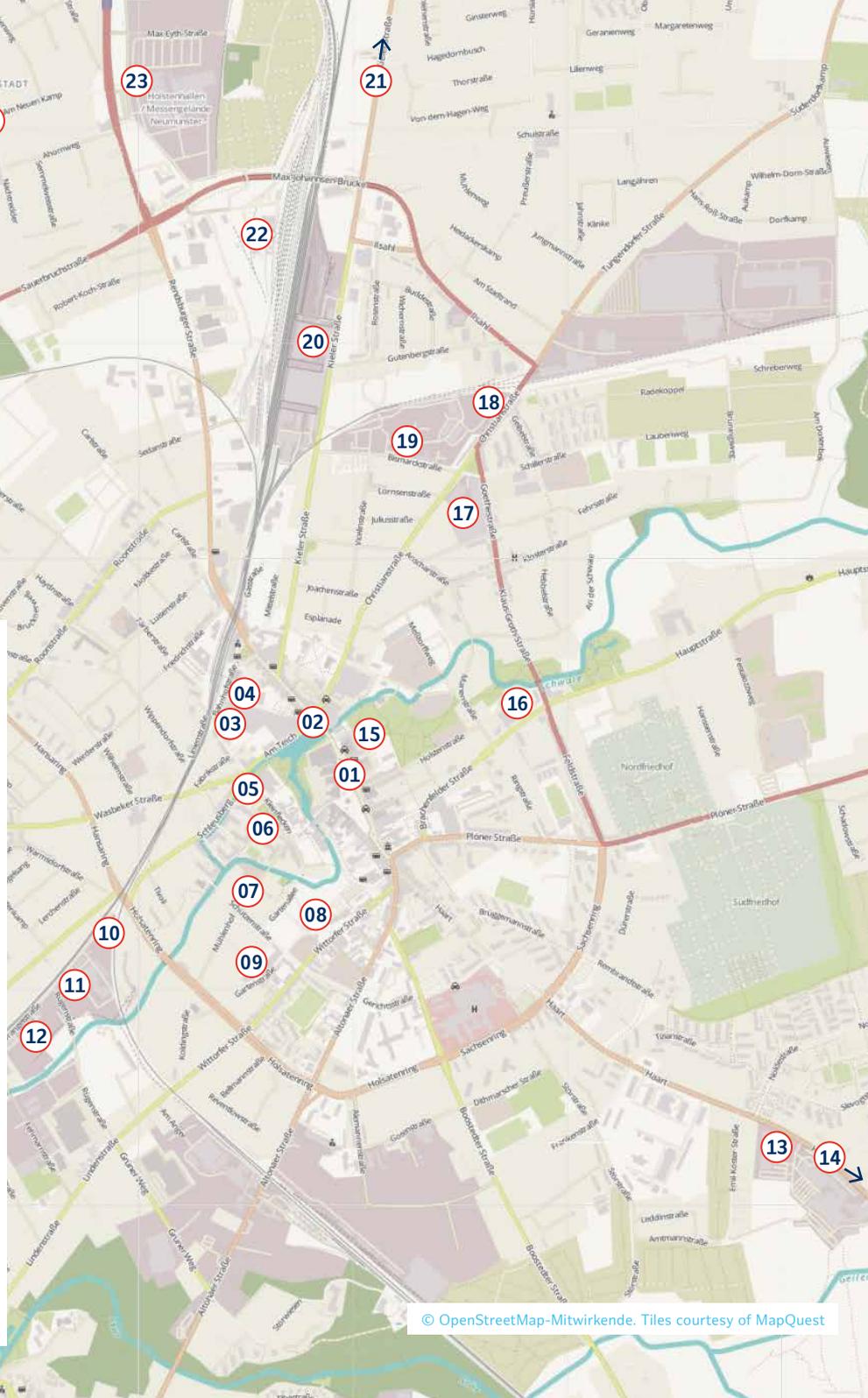


museums



points of interest

- 01 Großflecken *square*
- 02 Teich *pond*
- 03 Urinal and railway bridge
- 04 Catholic church St.Maria - St.Vicelin
- 05 Museum Tuch + Technik
- 06 Kleinflecken *square*
- 07 Mühlenhof *street*
- 08 Papierfabrik *paper factory*
- 09 Tuchfabrik Christian Friedrich Köster *cloth factory*
- 10 Tuchfabrik Julius Bartram *cloth factory*
- 11 Lederfabrik Hermann G. Schmid *leather factory*
- 12 Lederfabrik Adler & Oppenheimer AG *leather factory*
- 13 Lederfabrik Emil Köster AG *leather factory*
- 14 Gadelander Mühle *steam mill*
- 15 Rencks Park
- 16 Holsten-Brauerei AG *brewery*
- 17 AEG-Fabrik *factory*
- 18 Wasserturm *water tower*
- 19 Kraftwerk *power station*
- 20 Eisenbahn-Ausbesserungswerk *railway repair centre*
- 21 Chausseewärterhaus *house of the road guard*
- 22 Bahnbetriebswerk railway *maintenance depot*
- 23 Holstenhalle 1 *fairgrounds*
- 24 Gartenstadt *garden city*
- 25 Stadtwald *municipal forest*



## 01 Großflecken square



The Großflecken is the heart of Neumünster. With its elongated triangular shape the square connects several roads and extends all the way to the Schwale river. Through an opening on the ground you can still see the granite arch of the bridge Kieler Brücke which used to mark the city limits as part of the paved Kiel-Altona Chaussee since 1834. Up to

the 19th century mainly carters and farmers were living along the Großflecken which was traditionally used as market square. The city hall from 1900 is located here as well as the former post office from 1886. Factories were developing along the Schwale river and the pond since 1850: a tannery, a distillery and four cloth mills. After WW II car traffic with parking and a bus station took over the square. From 1968 on pedestrians had to cross the Großflecken via a tunnel until it was redesigned. The motorway from 1972 and the inner ring road built in 1984 relieved the pressure from the Großflecken and traffic-calming measures were introduced in 1991.



**Location:** Großflecken, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 1

## 02 Teich pond



The Mühlenteich (mill pond) in Neumünster - since 1899 only called the "pond" - was probably created back in the 13th century but first mentioned in 1502. The water of the Schwale river was dammed to operate the mill Klostermühle at the nearby bridge Mühlenbrücke. Behind the barrage the so-called Schleusau was created as

overflow channel and cut-off of the meandering river. Along the pond cloth makers settled since the 17th century using the soft water for their operations but also misusing it as sewer. Piers along the pond made it possible to wash the wool and rinse out the colour. Because settling sediments were accumulating at the bottom of the pond it had to be dredged several times. The size of the pond was reduced in 1900 and the redesign of the east bank with the bastion as well as the new bridge Kieler Brücke across the Schwale river made the pond even smaller. The grain mill was demolished in 1981.



**Location:** Am Teich, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 5

## 03 Urinal and railway bridge



Just next to the railway bridge a unique building survived: the public toilet with urinals for men was built in 1898 and is the last still existing example of these toilets in the city. It is a rotunda with a cast-iron support structure and a corrugated iron roof. Public toilets for men were common back then, especially in lively neighbourhoods

such as this one where pedestrians and vehicles had to cross the railway tracks at street level until 1904. The railway crossing gates were closed between 200 and 300 times per day so both residents and city council were glad when the tracks were elevated to the newly built dam. The beam bridge with its stabiliser link (renewed in 1974) as well as the hinged beams date back to 1904. The western bridge does not have any beams.



**Location:** Bahnhofstraße, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 9

## 04 Catholic church St. Maria - St. Vicelin



As growing industrial city Neumünster became attractive for people from other regions, among them many Catholics. During the textile workers' strike in 1888 the factory owners hired more Catholics from Silesia and the German region Eichsfeld as strike-breakers. The Catholic parish in Neumünster grew and had 800 members who needed a church.

The cloth factory C. Sager Söhne & Co. provided the property for that church and in 1893 the construction company Rudolf Pries started building the Catholic church St. Maria - St. Vicelin in neo-roman style planned by Ernst Brettschneider. The cloth factory was located behind the church property at the street Fabrikstraße. In 1851 Carl Sager had bought a steam engine and weaving looms and with those he had started the third fully operational cloth mill in Neumünster. The company closed down only in 1990 and was then used as event venue and industrial centre. The complex Sagerviertel was demolished in 2014 for the new construction of the shopping mall Holsten-Galerie.



**Location:** Bahnhofstraße 35, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 10

## 05 Museum Tuch + Technik



The old machines at the Museum Tuch + Technik are still in operation and a limited edition of blankets produced during live presentations from their inhouse production is still sold today. The association of friends of the museum maintained the historic machines used for processing wool and built between 1926 and 1960 so it does feel like you are in a real cloth factory in the museum that was opened in 2007. The style of the building by architects Wuttke + Kekeritz from Neumünster resembles the look of display cabinets and characterises this area between Kleinflecken and the pond where the cloth mills used to be located. The museum vividly illustrates the development of cloth making from manual to industrial production and shows that the basic principles have not changed throughout the years. It is still about making threads from fibres and interlacing them producing cloth. The museum skilfully links the up and down of the once so important textile industry with the history of the city.



**Location:** Kleinflecken 1, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 11

## 06 Kleinflecken square



The urban squares Kleinflecken and Großflecken used to be the centres of independent settlement areas with the Kleinflecken being a lot calmer due to its more secluded location in a river bend. The church Vicelinkirche whose neo-classical construction in 1834 replaced an older building defines the square.

From 1864 on the local "Verschönerungs-

verein" (improvement association) operated a park on the Kleinflecken with a monument of the emperor. The factories settling along the Schwale river later displaced the typical predominantly rural buildings along the square. Around 1900 four cloth mills as well as a leather factory were located here. The leather factory Franz Wieman at number 18 almost reached back to the street Schützenstraße but it was closed down in 1964. The weekly farmers market moved to the Kleinflecken in 1947 (returning to the Großflecken in 2010). The little building on its southern tip dates back to 1954: it used to be the office of the market master with a refreshment kiosk and public toilets.



**Location:** Kleinflecken, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 13

## 07 Mühlenhof street



The street Mühlenhof was developed after 1890 as the second exclusive residential area in Neumünster and was promoted by businessman Franz Rohwer and his plans for the emerging industrial city. Facing the Kleinflecken multi-storey buildings characterise the street but further south detached houses are dominant, especially mansions in different architectural styles for the upper class such as Rohwer's house at number 42. Master carpenter Rudolf Pries had built several of them, for example number 32 (1899), 34 (1897) and his own house number 50 with a park (1897). Other houses that stand out are the ones by cloth manufacturer Johannes Kracht (number 40 from 1912) and by the commander of the infantry regiment 163 (number 49 from 1899). Another part of the architectural ensemble is the bridge across the Schwale river with its shallow arch which was built in 1900. The road surface also dates back to that time: the large granite cobblestones are supported by smaller cobblestones on the road and by bricks on the pavement.



**Location:** Mühlenhof, 24534 Neumünster

## 08 Papierfabrik paper factory



The neat brick building was part of Buntpapierfabrik Gottfried Möller & Söhne. Only one year after being established the company employed up to 30 workers in 1851. Since 1860 they owned a steam engine. In 1872 the mill was extended and then reconstructed in 1903 and again in 1911 after a fire. It employed up to 50 workers and exported its goods

as far as America. The main purpose of the factory was to colour paper and to append effects to paper by adding fibre and wood flour. Möller's father already was a papermaker: Claus Hinrich Möller ran a paper mill at the Stör river since 1824 close to Neumünster's city limits in the village of Groß Kummerfeld. His son moved to Rendsburg to operate a paper manufacture before returning to Neumünster in 1849. Around 1929 the company discontinued operations. Since then the buildings were used as warehouses among others since 1934 from Robert Wahle, a beekeeping supplier. From 1995 until 1997 the factory was redesigned to house offices and a restaurant.



**Location:** Gartenstraße 10, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 18

## 09 Tuchfabrik Christian Friedrich Köster *cloth factory*



The cloth factory Christian Friedrich Köster in the street Gartenstraße offers a unique architecture although it was redesigned in 1975 and turned into an office building. The impressive example of a sober industrial building from before WW I was designed by Franz Hammerstein (Hamburg) and built in 1912/13 after the old factory

was destroyed by a fire in 1879. Around 1966 the clothing industry in Neumünster still employed about 1.900 people and the three largest cloth factories Christian Friedrich Köster, Ludwig Simons KG and Werner Wolf KG were united under the name Delta-Textilindustrie GmbH. But after a short boom this company was also closed down at the end of 1969 because the ever changing tastes in style as well as the cheap competition especially from Italy made the business too difficult. Only the cloth factories C.Sager Söhne and Julius Bartram were able to survive for two more decades.



**Location:** Gartenstraße 24-28, 24534 Neumünster

## 10 Tuchfabrik Julius Bartram *cloth factory*



In 1892 the cloth factory Julius Bartram at the street Fabrikstraße burned down and the owner relocated away from the city centre to the new industrial area along the street Wrangelstraße. The 3-storey brick building still visible at the southern end of the property dates back to that time and was built by carpenter Rudolf Pries.

Right next to it the wool warehouse was built in 1914 as reinforced concrete building and other buildings followed. The last one being a large construction with a reinforced steel framework finished in 1960. With more than 300 employees Bartram had invested in producing high-quality wool blankets as did the company C. Sager Söhne & Co. More than 60 weaving looms were in use at Bartram's factory. Under the name "Juba" blankets were distributed worldwide but also fabric for women's and men's clothing. But the end came in 1991: as the last clothing factory in Neumünster Julius Bartram was shut down.



**Location:** Wrangelstraße 9, 24539 Neumünster

## 11 Lederfabrik Hermann G. Schmid *leather factory*



Neumünster used to be the largest leather industry location in Prussia. The central location of the city as well as the nearby Hamburg harbour where the cattle hide was imported were essential for this industry. The Schwale river was also very important for the factories at Wrangelstraße as a lot of water is needed for processing animal skin. Working in these

factories was not good for the worker's health as not only the physical stress was very high but also the use of chemicals, hot and cold water as well as working with steam and in draught was hazardous. The labour-intensive production was therefore first shifted to Southern Europe and then to countries where the raw materials were coming from. The leather factory Hermann G. Schmid was shut down in 1965 and the site was turned into a commercial park. Schmid had taken over the factory in 1903 from the leather factory Locht & Gier (founded in 1889) and had extended it from 1905-12 and from 1920-24. The 1.000 employees mainly processed cattle hide.



**Location:** Wrangelstraße 10-15, 24539 Neumünster

## 12 Lederwerke Adler & Oppenheimer AG *leather factory*



The commercial park at Wrangelstraße 34-36 had an eventful history. 1892 the factory for artificial wool Voigt was located there until the leather factory Emil Köster AG took over the site in 1902 and gradually expanded it. In 1914 a large fire destroyed the plant with 350 employees. Because of WW I the production was

taken up again only in 1917. Meanwhile Emil Köster had started building a new plant in Gadeland and sold the old site to the Adler & Oppenheimer AG. The leather corporation originally from Alsace extended the factory at Wrangelstraße: with about 1.200 employees 2.5 million sheepskins were processed here in 1924. The Jewish owners were expropriated and the plant was renamed Norddeutsche Lederwerke. In 1966 the plant was shut down. The mansion dating back to 1892 is particularly interesting but also the boiler house from 1960 with its steam generator is worth visiting.



**Location:** Wrangelstraße 34-36, 24539 Neumünster

### 13 Lederfabrik Emil Köster AG *leather factory*



At the beginning of the 1960s the Emil Köster AG in Gadeland was state-of-the-art and the largest factory for clothing and lining leather in Europe. More than 3 million sheepskins were processed here yearly. But the customer's requirements changed to fine leather and more quality – things that the factories in southern

Europe could do better. Therefore production was phased out during the global economic crisis in 1967. In 1928 another one of Köster's clothing factories, the Bekleidungswerke AG, moved in and started producing on the same site until 1975. Today the location is used as commercial centre called Stör-Park. The buildings on the site were rebuilt until 1942 in a particular modern style after a large fire had destroyed the plant in 1937. The Gadeland based plant of Emil Köster from 1921 dates back to his leather factory at Wrangelstraße which was destroyed by a fire in 1914.



**Location:** Haart 224, 24539 Neumünster

### 14 Gadelander Mühle *steam mill*



A still fully existing grain mill is maintained in the city's Gadeland district. In full operation until 1970 it was only producing shredded wheat until its closure. Today Adolf Wendt junior operates the forwarding agency "Holsten Oel" on the site, emerged from a mineral oil trade. Since 2007 the Wendt Family has been renovating

the old mill. The steam mill was built in 1912 after the windmill burned down. In 1929 the steam engine was replaced by a diesel engine from the company R.Wolf from Magdeburg-Buckau with an engine power of 60 HP. When they ran out of fuel in 1942 the Wendt Family again replaced the engine with an electric motor. Both units are fully intact. The main building built in the typical "Heimatschutz" style was complemented by several other buildings: in 1930 the barn was added, followed by the pigsty in 1937. Just opposite the extended boiler house (1936) a new building was constructed in 1938 for grain cleaning.



**Location:** Segeberger Straße 32, 24539 Neumünster

### 15 Rencks Park



From 1824 on the first steam engine in the country could be found in Neumünster, in the cloth factory Renck which was also the first fully operational mill in the city. All the work steps needed in cloth production were done here: from processing the raw wool all the way to the finished fabric. The Renck Family had bought the former

prison on the "Klosterinsel" and had converted it into a cloth mill that was in operation until 1896. The site today is part of the "Renck'sche Park", a former garden which was created by co-owner Detlef Anton Renck in 1857 southwest of the factory. In 1870 Hans Lorenz Renck donated the park to the city and it became a public garden in 1921 after the last heir gave up his heritage. The working population was supposed to find peace and quiet from the bustling city on the well-kept paths of this wonderful park that is characterised by old trees and large patches of grass with shrubs.



**Location:** Am Klostergraben, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 38

### 16 Holsten-Brauerei AG *brewery*



For a long time the famous Holsten beer was produced in Neumünster: the Holsten brewery from Altona had taken over the operations from the company D. H. Hinselmann & Co. at Brachenfelder Straße already in 1922 and had invested significantly from 1965 until 1971. Nevertheless in November 1986 the last can of pilsner beer ran off the belt.

Seven years later the complex was turned into a commercial centre. Already in 1760 the Hinselmann Family ran a brewery producing top-fermented brown beer at the Großflecken. To be able to brew bottom-fermented lager Detlef Hinrich Hinselmann needed storage cellars that were built in 1864 at Brachenfelder Straße and cooled the beer using ice from ponds near the Schwale River. In 1874/75 he had an entire brewery built at this site and modernised it a couple of times. At the end the brewing capacity reached 500,000 hectolitres per year but the technology was outdated. Therefore the larger Holsten Brewery in Altona took over the production.



**Location:** Brachenfelder Straße 45-47, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** see brochure "40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster's inner city", No. 26

## 17 AEG-Fabrik *factory*



With 1.500 employees the AEG factory for low-voltage switchgear and controlgear was one of the largest companies in Neumünster. After the decline of AEG in 1996 General Electric took over this business unit but there is almost nothing left today. The newer part of the factory that was connected with the main plant at Goethestraße by

a tunnel and a bridge was demolished in 2007. The factory dated back to 1928 when AEG founded the Apparate-Werke in Berlin-Treptow. After Germany's division into East and West this business unit moved to Neumünster in 1947 into the former branch of the Archo Büromaschinen KG Karl Winterling & Co. (based in Frankfurt am Main). Already in 1939 Archo had extended the factory by two more buildings, one located at the Theodor-Storm-Straße. The rise of the AEG empire is marked by the generous gatehouse from 1955 at Berliner Platz.



**Location:** Goethestraße 24-28, 24534 Neumünster

## 18 Wasserturm *water tower*



Clean drinking water could not always be taken for granted. In 1899/1900 the power station Baltische AG für Licht-, Kraft- und Wasserwerke (today: Stadtwerke) built a central water supply for Neumünster. Eighteen wells, a water tower and a pump house were built. The latter was re-erected in parts after being destroyed during the war but

closed down in 1978. Today the plant "Brüningsweg" (opened in 1924) supplies the city with water. The head of the tower (48 metres high) houses an iron container that holds 950 cubic metres of water. The tower serves as pressure compensation unit and as reserve for extinguishing water. Engineer Otto Intze was responsible for the concept of this construction which was widely used throughout Germany. Only vertical forces are emitted by the foundation therefore these towers only require a slim shaft under the stick-out head. The light art "Kelvin" by Till Nowak illuminates the building in the dark.



**Location:** Christianstraße 133, 24534 Neumünster

**Information:** [www.kelvin-neumuenster.de](http://www.kelvin-neumuenster.de)

## 19 Kraftwerk *power station*



Neumünster's first power plant was opened in 1900 at its current location and was operated by the power station Baltische AG für Licht-, Kraft- und Wasserwerke which was founded in 1899. With an initial output of 410 kilowatts the electricity production was quite moderate. In 1911 the city council took over the company,

operated the plant as public utility ("Stadtwerke") and invested a lot of money. In 1916 they set up a steam turbine with an output of four megawatts. At that time the today still existing machine hall in the centre of the plant was built. Today the hall is towered by the coal boilers built from 1979 until 1983 and by the substitute fuel plant that was put into operation in 2005. Already since 1948 the plant offered long-distance heating - at the beginning only for industrial customers, later also for private households. The plant underwent constant modernisation as the political and environmental conditions changed.



**Location:** Bismarckstraße 51, 24534 Neumünster

## 20 Railway repair centre



Neumünster's railway repair centre today maintains the 1.500 Deutsche Bahn InterCity carriages. The centre dates back to a workshop that was established in 1861 at Rendsburger Straße. The Rendsburg-Neumünstersche Eisenbahngesellschaft (RNE) founded the workshop in competition to the Altona-Kieler Eisenbahn (AKE). But

already three years later, AKE took over RNE and built a new workshop at Kieler Straße on the other side of the railway in 1868. It underwent constant modernisation and reached today's dimensions around 1903 with two huge assembly halls. Until 1926 the AKE also repaired engines, points and freight wagons. Since then at times more than 1,000 employees still maintain or modify four-axle passenger carriages. Allied bombings destroyed the plant on April 13, 1945. It was reconstructed and was enlarged with administration buildings along the street around 1950.



**Location:** Kieler Straße 119, 24536 Neumünster

## 21 Chaussewärterhaus *house of the road guard*



From 1839 to 1864 King Frederik VI. of Denmark, the sovereign at that time, had the Kiel-Altona Chaussee built as an artificial road from Altona to Kiel, today's state road number 4. The rather straight trail with dams and bridges as well as the systematically built roadway with gravel facilitated traffic considerably and turned the

road into the first efficient overland route in Schleswig Holstein. Altogether there were 14 houses for the road guards along the road, two of them being in Neumünster. The guards collected the toll from road users, were responsible for minor maintenance work and restoring order. Only three walls and some roof beams were left from the guard house at Kieler Straße 395 (the second house is located at Altonaer Straße 382). It was restored in 2000 according to the regulations for historical monuments and the outer brick layer destroyed by cement plaster was replaced by oxblood coloured lime mud.



**Location:** Kieler Straße 395, 24536 Neumünster

## 22 Bahnbetriebswerk *railway maintenance depot*



Traditionally the railway was one of the big employers in Neumünster. In the 1950s the departments of the railway hub employed more than 3,000 railroaders. Part of them worked at the railway maintenance depot near the freight yard. Here the maintenance of engines took place since 1892, from 1900 on in a more

spacious facility with two roundhouses. The depot was destroyed during WW II and only rebuilt in parts. Nonetheless 80 steam engines were stationed in the depot - the same number as before the war. In 1966 the German railway Deutsche Bundesbahn (DB) discontinued the maintenance of steam engines in Neumünster. After that only small diesel engines were serviced here and parts of the depot were demolished. In 1988 the Rendsburg association of railway enthusiasts took over the premises. It became a branch of the DB Museum in Nürnberg in 2010.



**Location:** Brückenstraße 2, 24537 Neumünster

## 23 Holstenhalle 1 *fairgrounds*



Neumünster has always been an important hub for cattle trading and still is today with cattle being sold at auctions at Holstenhalle 1, the oldest building of the trade and event centre Holstenhallen. The hall with stables, bull ring and direct access to railway tracks was opened on August 15, 1939. Only two weeks later the company Land

und See Leichtbau GmbH leased the hall as additional factory building: the subsidiary of the Gebr. Sachsenberg AG from Roßlau manufactured aircraft parts at the site Sedanstraße and the air base. From 1945 on the British occupation forces used the Holstenhalle as repair shop. A new suspended ceiling together with heavy snow loads caused the wooden roof construction to collapse in 1947. The city council decided to rebuild the hall using a steel skeleton structure and it was reopened in July 1950 during a political rally of Kurt Schumacher (SPD). It was also a popular site for ice shows, handball matches, boxing matches, horse shows and artistic performances.



**Location:** Justus-von-Liebig-Straße 2-4, 24537 Neumünster

**Information:** [www.holstenhallen.com](http://www.holstenhallen.com)

## 24 Gartenstadt *garden city*



Due to the industrialisation the population of Neumünster grew rapidly. The city sprawled with its factories, tenement blocks and company-owned apartments and the living conditions were at any rate difficult. The garden city movement was started in England and spilled over to Germany: a small house with a vegetable garden should be affordable for families

with a lower income. Neumünster therefore started planning the garden city in 1909: 80 hectare of land should be turned into 800 slots. On each site simple and usually plastered detached and semi-detached houses were built from 1910 on with partially developed attics and attached stables in the back. Because of WW I demand was shrinking and the project stagnated. In 1926 only 79 slots along the streets Birkenweg and Am Neuen Kamp were developed and the original plans were dismissed. Other houses were built in the area: in 1929 brick terrace houses along Ahornweg and in 1940 estate houses along the streets Akazien- and Ulmenweg.



**Location:** Am Neuen Kamp, 24537 Neumünster

## 25 Stadtwald *municipal forest*



The municipal forest “Stadtwald” was always a green haven for Neumünster’s citizens whose health was strained by the noise and dirt of the factories. Already in 1864 superintendent Carl Geerdtz turned the first park of the heathland into a forest area and in 1908 the city council decided to turn the oldest part into a forest park with patches of grass, the Stadtpark. To the

west of the park the municipal forest emerged, part of it being the “Rodelberg” built on a mountain of rubble and garbage and the “Heldenhain” (grove of heroes) set up in memory of the soldiers who died during WW I (later renamed “grove of peace”). Another part of this green corridor is the large garden of the leather factory owner Sager and his country house at Carlstraße 169 from 1928. His factory was located on the site of the Hindenburg barracks but was closed down in 1929. The office building (1922) at Carlstraße 63, the villa from at Carlstraße 71 (1900) as well as the houses of the foremen from 1900/1907 at Carlstraße 73/75 and 77/79 are still visible today.



**Location:** Carlstraße / Junglöwweg, Neumünster

The brochure “40 City Spots - A walk through Neumünster’s inner city” is available at the tourist information office at the Großflecken.



The brochure “City-Spots” PDF



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