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# HERSFELD – HISTORY OF A GREAT ABBNEY AND TOWN



# PRESENTATION OUTLINE



BAD HERSFELD –  
TWIN TOWN OF  
MALMESBURY,  
SUMPERK,  
L'HAYE LES  
ROSES AND  
BAD  
SALZUNGEN

- The spa town Bad Hersfeld is located in the Hersfeld-Rotenburg district in eastern Hesse. Bad Hersfeld is known for its famous Bad Hersfeld Theatre Festival in the Abbey ruin since 1951
- Altitude: 200 m above sea level - Ground: 73,87 qkm
- Weather: Average temperatures: 21 degrees Celsius, wind 11 km/h, 72% humidity
- Population: 30,846 (31 December 2024) – Population density: 418 / qkm
- Postal code: 36251
- Calling code: +49 6621
- Mayoress: Mrs. Anke Hofmann



# LOCATION OF BAD HERSFELD IN GERMANY





# HISTORICAL FORMS OF THE NAME OF HERSFELD MENTIONED IN DOCUMENTS

- 736 Haerulfisfelt
- 779 Hariulfisfelt
- 780 Erulvisfeld
- 782 Harulfisfelt
- 968 Herocampia and Herolfesfeld (pago Hassiae)
- 1099 Herosfeld
- 1107 Herveld
- 1134 Herschfeld or Hersfeld
- 1617 Hirschfeld
- 1900 Hersfeld

Iebo. 7 Jerril. Lebruecan. 7 Bullide. hūb. vii. m. x. In Bre-  
 - talaho. 7 Reguhardesdorf. 7 Bertharlesdorf. 7 Hafun.  
 & Brinast. Iebo. 7 Bundorf. 7 Bechtendorf. 7 Wihe. &.  
 - Alarellrde. 7 Woluncrlede. 7 mumelebo. 7 Reidere. 7 Sca-  
 - dunge. 7 Bebrabo. hob. x. xxviii. 7 colonel habitantes  
 nulli. In Rago Weirribun. In uilla que dr. Houngun.  
 hūb. xl. mansi. r. xviii. In Rago Wormaciense. In  
 uilla que dr. Scornelbeim capella unā. hob. vii. m. c.  
 In higlinbeim superior capella unā. hūb. u. m. 1111.  
 In Auderlach. 7 in Ribenahcho. 7 in Bulse. 7 in Hemos-  
 - felde capella. hūb. x. m. x. In Ovlaho hūb. viii.  
 m. x. In Ialaho hob. 1111. m. 1111. In Bertscila hūb. u.  
 m. 111. In hohsegowe capella. hūb. x. m. x. P. coru  
 hūb. cccc. xx. mansi. cc. xc. Quo usq. editio domru  
 Kurlu imparari. 7 In sso Brae cunct. qd beat  
 hobbs. arthi. q. s. acq. siue. 7 ei liberi homines. ediderit  
 melama sinā illo. edere ad monasteria Herol. fasselt.  
 qd ille estruxit in hūb. omia in marca hasso. 7 edidit.  
 karolo imp. hoc ē in eode loco hūbas. xx. In thurin-  
 - gia cellula. unā nomine Ordorf. viii. hūbas. Villam  
 que uocat. Sulzebruggun. hūb. xlii. m. xxx. 111.  
 In Suthuhusun hūb. x. m. xiiii. In Sibilebo hūb. viii.  
 m. 111. In welnestar. hūb. xii. m. u. In hollthrusun. &  
 Billastar. hob. ii. m. viii. In Morbusun. hob. ii. m. i.  
 In Ermenstar. hūb. 111. m. i. In priheslebo hūb. ii. m. 11.  
 In Mehrtobest. hūb. vii. m. 111. In Mlidihusun. h. 111.  
 m. u. In sellinge. hūb. xii. m. xii. In Eslebest. h.  
 xii. m. 1111. In Fricheslebo hūb. 111. m. x. In Mlibusun  
 hob. dun. m. vii. In Sūlare hūbas. xiiii. m. viii. In Re-

# HERSFELD IN THE EARLY MEDIEVAL TIME

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400 BC Excavations document remains of settlements from the Laténe period in the abbey district

736 monk Sturmius, who came from Bavaria, builds the first chapel covered with bark on the site of the already abandoned settlement of "Haerulfisfelt"

744 Sturmius moves into the interior of the "Buchonia" on Boniface's instructions and founds the monastery of Fulda

754 Lullus (Lull) succeeds St. Boniface as Bishop of Mainz

769 Lullus founds a Benedictine monastery in Hersfeld – as a competitor to Fulda

775 Hersfeld is elevated to an imperial abbey by Charlemagne (protection document)



LULL(US) –  
MONK FROM  
MALMESBURY –

“CONDITOR  
HERSFELDIAE”  
FOUNDER OF  
HERSFELD  
MONASTERY IN  
769



# HERSFELD ABBEY BECOMES AN IMPERIAL MONASTERY IN 775

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769 Monastery founded as a Benedictine monastery by Lull, monk from Malmesbury

775 becomes property of King Charlemagne, with free election of abbots by the monks

Liberation from all episcopal and countal power

In secular terms, the monastery was subordinate to the king, and the abbot's position as imperial prince was in the offing.

From a spiritual/canonical point of view, the monastery is directly subordinate to the Pope

Generous donations from Charlemagne expand the power of the monastery in Hesse and Thuringia



[illegible]





# RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MONASTERY COMPLEX





THE ONLY SURVIVING WING OF THE  
MONASTERY (MUSEUM)





The romanesque Abbey church  
(Reconstruction)



The image shows the interior of a large, reconstructed Romanesque abbey church. The architecture features a series of tall, cylindrical columns supporting a series of large, rounded arches. The walls are a light, textured color, and the floor is made of dark stone. In the foreground, rows of dark wooden pews are arranged in a nave. A person in a dark robe is seen from behind, walking down the center of the nave. At the far end of the church, there is an altar area with a large, colorful stained glass window. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the architectural details.

# THE ROMANESQUE ABBAY CHURCH (RECONSTRUCTION)



# HERSFELD ABBEY RUIN TODAY

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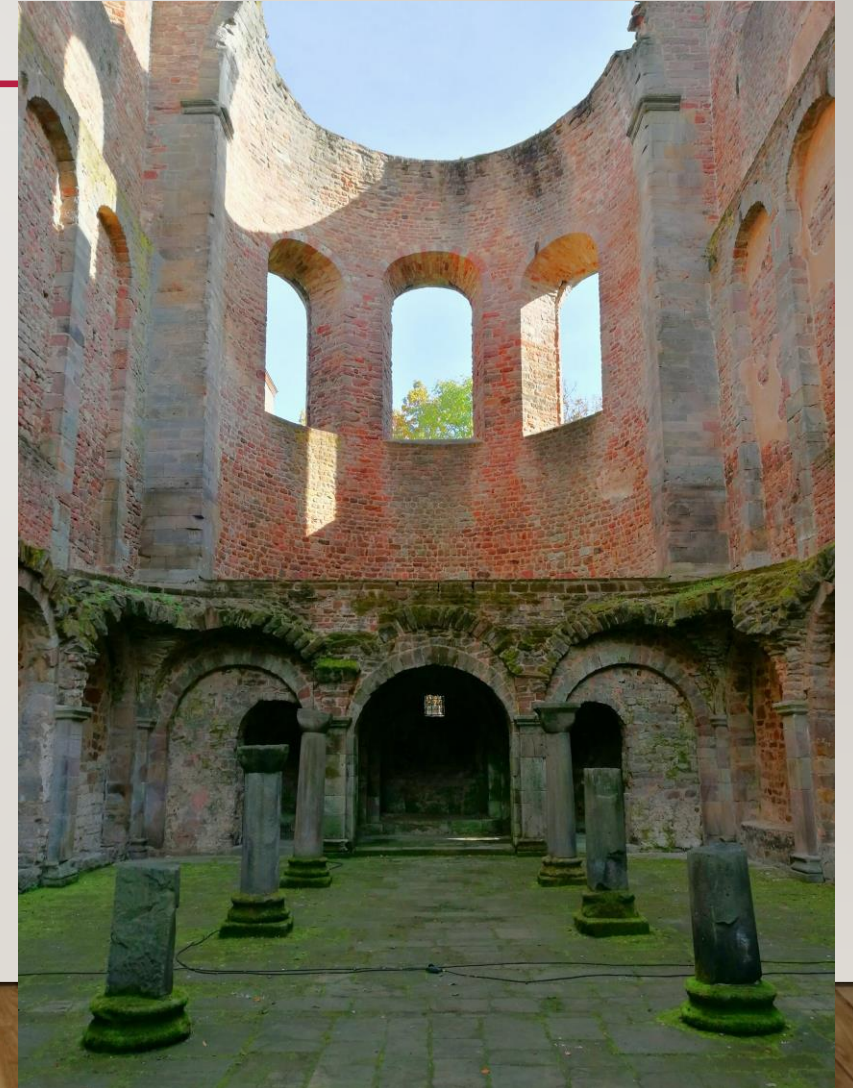




THE CRYPT – BURIAL PLACE OF  
ST. LULLUS AND ST. WIGBERT  
(RECONSTRUCTION)



# THE CRYPT TODAY – RUIN SINCE 1761





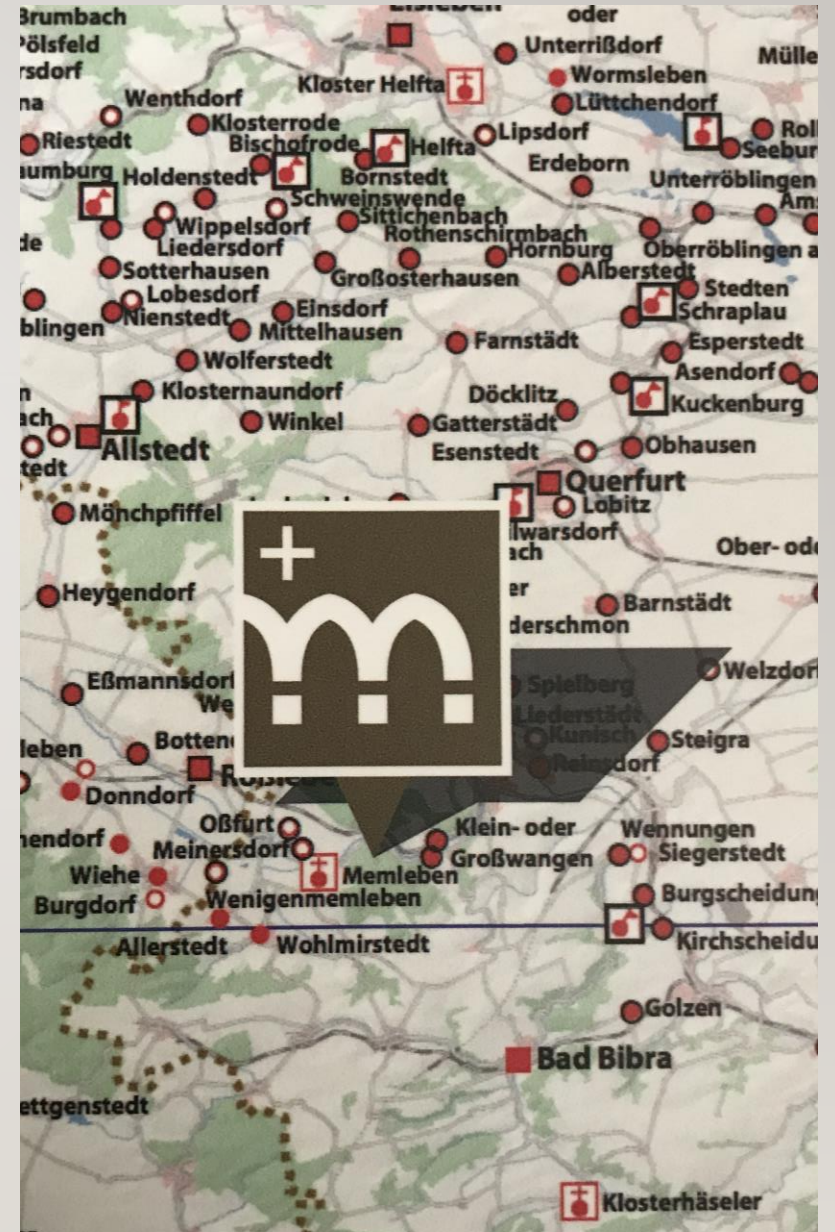
# THE BREVIARIUM LULLI -TITHE DIRECTORY

- In the tithe register (Breviarium Lulli) the possessions of the monastery are documented around 810
- In Carolingian times, Hersfeld Abbey had approximately
  - 60,000 acres of land
  - 193 villages, 132 of which are in Thuringia and as far away as Halle an der Saale

*peila in  
excligum*  
⊕  
in illis. In pago Wetreibun. In uilla que dr Houngi  
hüb. xl. mansi. xxviii. In pago Wormaciense. In  
uilla que dr Scornesheim capella una hob. viii. m. x.  
In Inglinheim supiori capella una hüb. ii. m. 1111.  
In Andernacho. In Libenahcho. In Gulse. In Gemes-  
felde capell. iii. hüb. v. m. x. In Ovlaho hüb. viii.  
m. x. In lalaho hob. ii. m. iii. In Beriscila hüb. i.  
m. iii. In hohsegowe capell. iii. hüb. x. m. x. P totu  
hübe. cccc. xx. mansi. cc. xc. Huc usq; editio domni  
Karoli impatori. *In isto Breue cuncta qd beat*  
*lvbbs. archi eps acqsiuit. Sei liberi homines edideri*  
*in edemo finā illoz edere ad monasteriū Herolfesse*  
*qd ille estruxit in būchonia in marca hassoz. It dicit*  
*karolo imp. hoc ē in eodē loco hüb. as. xx.* In thurin-  
gia cellula una nomine Ordorf. viii. hüb. as. Villan-  
que uocat Gullebruggun. hüb. xli. m. xxx. 111.  
In Suababusun hüb. xx. m. xiiii. In Sibilebo hüb. vii.  
m. iii. In weberestat hüb. xii. m. ii. In holthusun. a  
Billesstat hob. iii. m. iii. In Horhusun hob. iii. m. i.  
*in pte* In Ermenstat hüb. iii. m. i. In prikeslebo hüb. ii. m.  
*in pte* In Mehrichestat hüb. viii. m. ii. In Midilhusun h.  
*in pte* m. ii. In Sellingen hüb. xii. m. xii. In Eslebesstat. i.  
*in pte* xii. m. viii. In Dricheslebo hüb. ii. m. x. In Mibu  
hob. xiiii. m. vii. In Sulare hüb. as. xiiii. m. vii. In  
lungun hob. iii. m. iii. In Bylaho hob. xii. m. x. In  
gelebo hüb. iii. m. iii. In Rantre hüb. iii. mansi. iii.



FROM INGELHEIM VIA  
MEMLEBEN TO HALLE AN DER  
SAALE





# EARLY URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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In 800, a small church of "Our Lady" was built on the Frauenberg, as the monastery church was not accessible to the settlers living next to the monastery district.

In 820, Emperor Ludwig the Pious took Hersfeld Abbey under his protection and confirmed the donations of his father Charles

831 to 850 Construction of the first basilica for the abbey, a short time later it burns down

In 852, the transfer of St. Lull's bones to the new collegiate church gave rise to the Lullus Festival, which is still celebrated today.

In 915, today's "Marktplatz", formerly called "Ebenheit", was built as a refuge.



# THE LULLUS FESTIVAL – THE OLDEST GERMAN FOLK FESTIVAL SINCE 852 TO COMMEMORATE THE ANNIVERSARY ST. LULL'S DEATH ON 16TH OCTOBER 786

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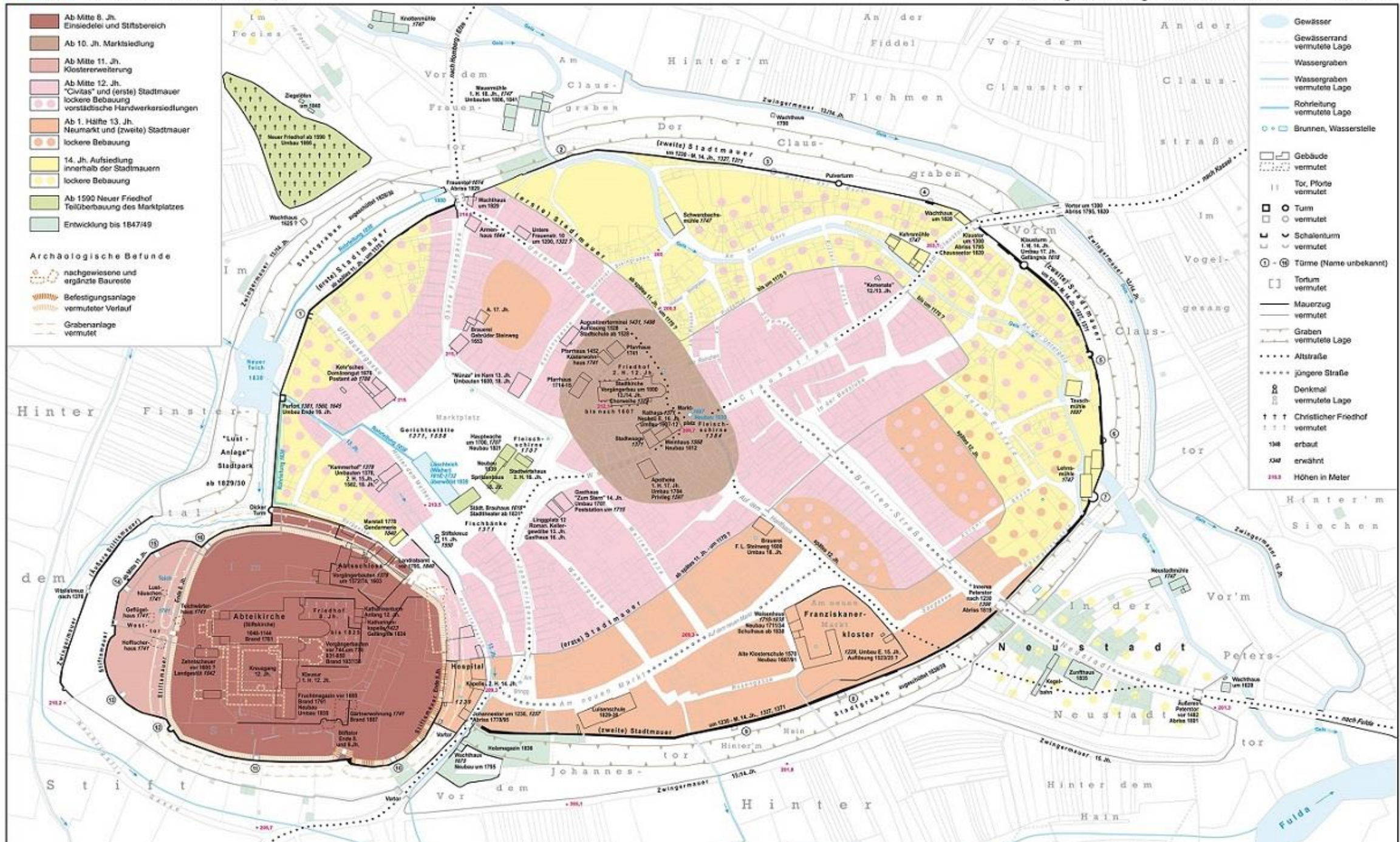






## THE MEDIEVAL TOWN AND MONASTERY COMPLEX (RECONSTRUCTION)







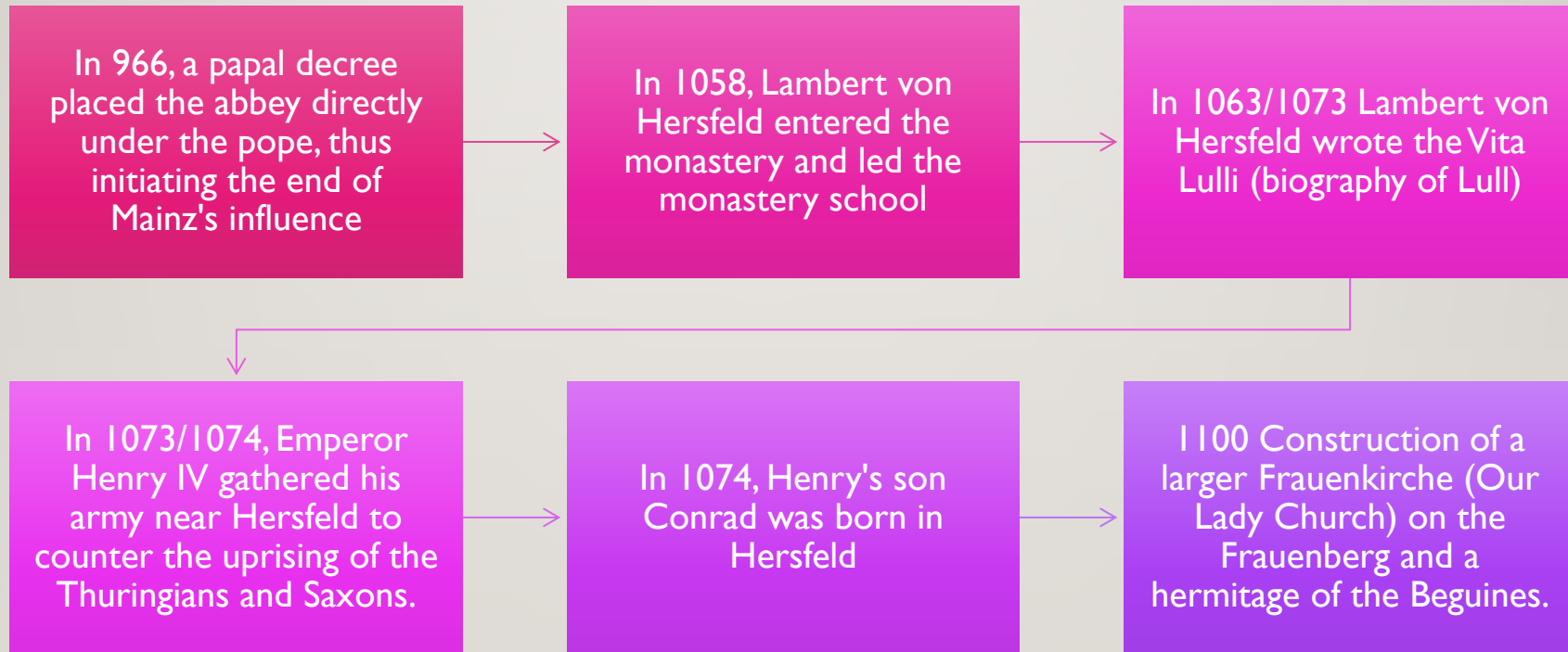
LULLUS BELL, FOUNDED BY  
ABBOT MEGINHER IN 1038,  
GERMANY'S OLDEST BELL IN ST.  
CATHERINE'S TOWER





# HERSFELD IN THE HIGH MEDIEVAL AGES

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# FIRST MENTION AS A TOWN



At the intersection of old roads, e.g. the **Via Regia** or Geleit and Heerstraße "**through the short Hesses**", which Fulda and Haune crossed on bridges



In 1142 it was first mentioned as a **market town**, which favoured further urban development



In 1170, Hersfeld was first mentioned as a **town** (civitas, i.e. city with a wall, ditch and market rights).



On 4 April 1182, Abbot Siegfried appointed the first **mayor** ("scultetus")



From 1249 to 1252, the city was recognized as an imperial town by the anti-king William of Holland. During this time, Flemings immigrated here ("Vlämenweg")







- (1) Stiftskirche
- (2) Stadtkirche
- (3) Hospital
- (4) Johannestor
- (5) Peterstor
- (6) Klosterurm



# HERSFELD IN THE LATE MEDIEVAL AGES

- From 1230 onwards, the town began to be expanded and the city walls relocated
- The work on the new town wall, the town moat and the Zwinger wall in front of it will last about 100 years.





# TRADES AND GUILDS IN THE HIGH MEDIEVAL AGES

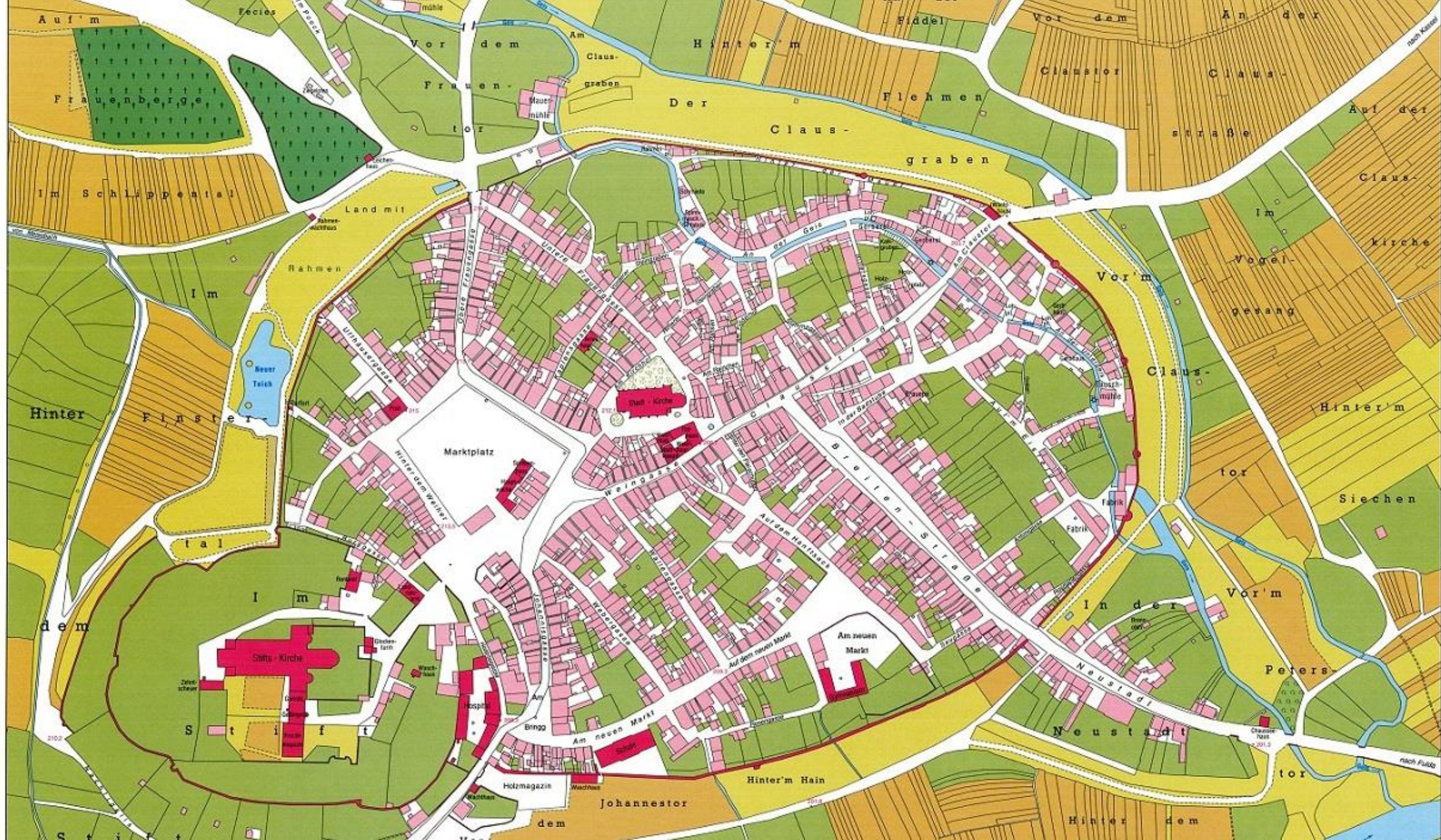
After 1250, Flemings brought with them the technique of woollen cloth production and cloth dyeing

In the 14th century, the wool weavers became one of the leading guilds of the city

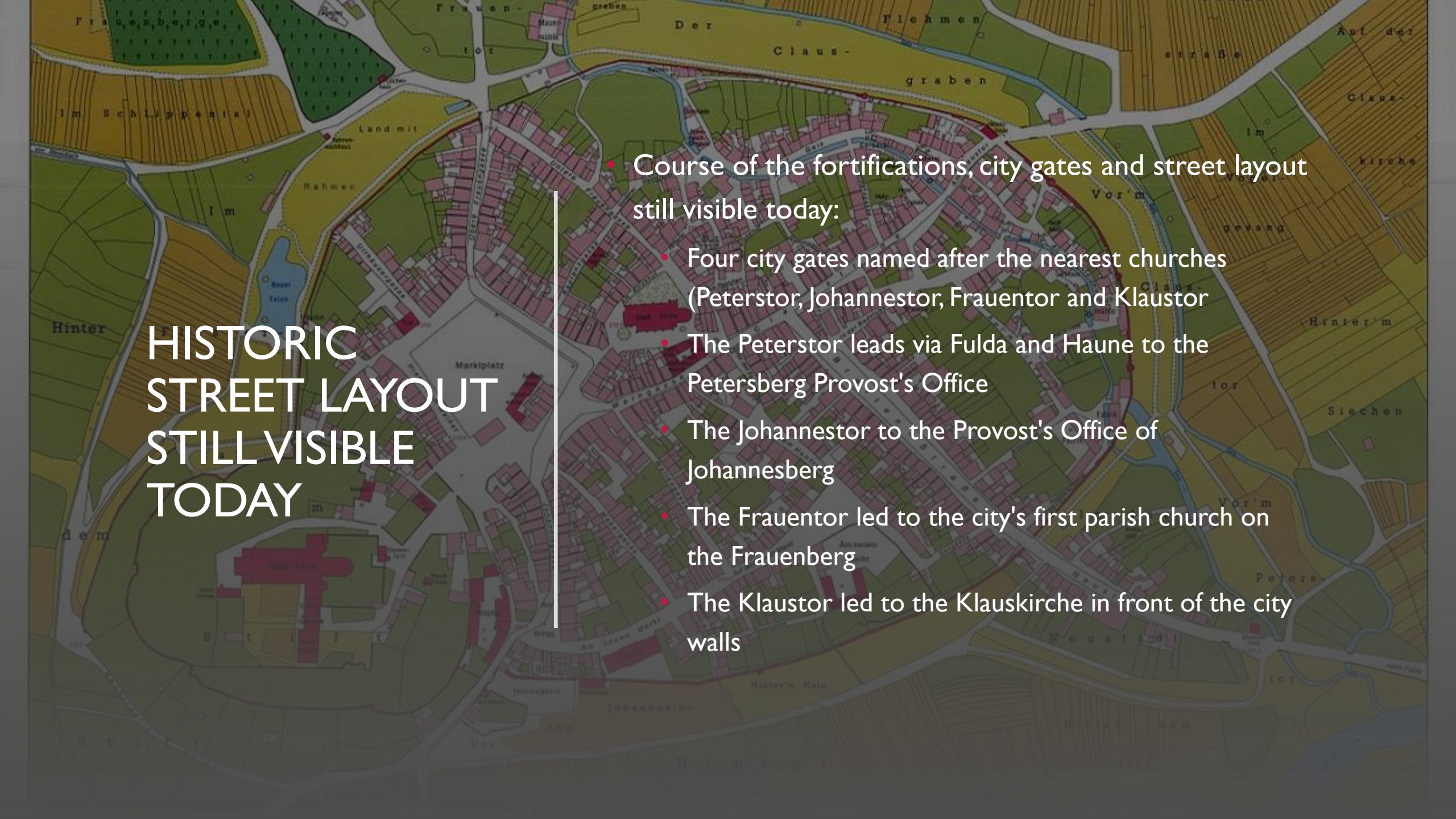
This creates the basis for the flourishing textile industry in the 18th and 19th centuries









A historical map of Fulda, Germany, showing the city's layout and fortifications. The map is color-coded: green for fields and forests, yellow for built-up areas, and blue for water. The city walls are shown as a red line, with four gates labeled: Peterstor, Johannestor, Frauentor, and Klaustor. The map also shows the city's street layout, including the main street, the market square (Marktplatz), and the city's fortifications. The map is titled 'HISTORIC STREET LAYOUT STILL VISIBLE TODAY' in large white letters.

# HISTORIC STREET LAYOUT STILL VISIBLE TODAY

- Course of the fortifications, city gates and street layout still visible today:
- Four city gates named after the nearest churches (Peterstor, Johannestor, Frauentor and Klaustor)
- The Peterstor leads via Fulda and Haune to the Petersberg Provost's Office
- The Johannestor to the Provost's Office of Johannesberg
- The Frauentor led to the city's first parish church on the Frauenberg
- The Klaustor led to the Klauskirche in front of the city walls







# HERSFELD IN THE RHENISH LEAGUE OF CITIES

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In 1255, the town joined the Rhenish League of Cities

1323 The first efforts of the city to gain independence from the abbey through the consecration of the Gothic choir of the town church

1344 Purchase of the hospital at Johannestor with hospital church from the abbey

1356 First plague epidemic with about 3000 deaths, further epidemics in 1410, 1470, 1486

1371 First documents about the Gothic town hall of the city, expanded in the 16th century and redesigned in the 17th century in the style of the Weser Renaissance

1373 Alliance of the town with Hessian Landgrave, renewed in 1414 and 1430.



# THE VITALIS NIGHT ON 28. APRIL 1378

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Hersfeld citizens wanted to elect a new mayor on 28.4.1378

As a result, the abbot loses direct control over the town (taxes...)

To prevent this, Abbot Berthold II of Völkershausen ordered to attack the town on Vitalis Night with the support of allied knights of the Sterner Liga

Knight Simon von Haune reveals this plan to the city and the attack was repelled

Knight Eberhard von Engern was shot while climbing over the city wall

His helmet is hung at the town hall as a sign of the citizen's victory.

Vitalis Cross in the town park outside the walls commemorates the site of the event



# MEMORY OF THE VITALIS-NIGHT APRIL 28TH 1378

VITALIS CROSS

KNIGHT EBERHARD VON  
ENGERN'S HELMET





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# DISPUTES BETWEEN MONASTERY AND THE CITY

After Vitalis Night, there are always disputes between the monastery and the town or the allied Landgrave

The disputes are usually to the detriment of the abbot and monastery, so the abbey loses influence and property

In 1432, Abbot Albrecht von Buchenau concludes a hereditary protection contract with Landgrave Hermann of Hesse

In 1458 and 1490, the inheritance protection contract was renewed.

Since then, the Principality of Hersfeld has been considered a state belonging to Hesse.





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## TOWN HALL IN THE OLD TOWN 1700 (RECONSTRUCTION)



# TOWN HALL AND TOWN CHURCH 1850 AND NOW

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# EXCURSE: THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN THE MIDDLE AGES

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There was already a Jewish community in Hersfeld in the Middle Ages

1347 Emperor Charles IV allowed the abbot of Hersfeld, John in 1347, to settle Jews in the city

1348/49 first Jewish settlers fell victim to the persecution of the Jews during the plague. Abbot John confiscated the Jewish estates.

1362, Jewish people settled in the town again

1378/79 at least three adult Jewish men lived here

1380 there were four Jewish men and one woman living in Hersfeld.



# EXCURSE: THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AFTER 1500

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Jewish families mostly lived from the income of money trading and from transactions with pawn loans. The right of protection and taxation was held by the abbots of Hersfeld. They issued letters of protection to Jewish families for two to eight years

Until the beginning of 16th century (1504 to 1508), documents on recordings (issuance or extension of letters of protection) have survived

Although nothing is known about pogroms and expulsions of Jews, no Jews lived in Hersfeld until the 19th century, apart from short stays during 2nd half of 17th century (1665, 1679)



# EXCURSE: THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AFTER 1866



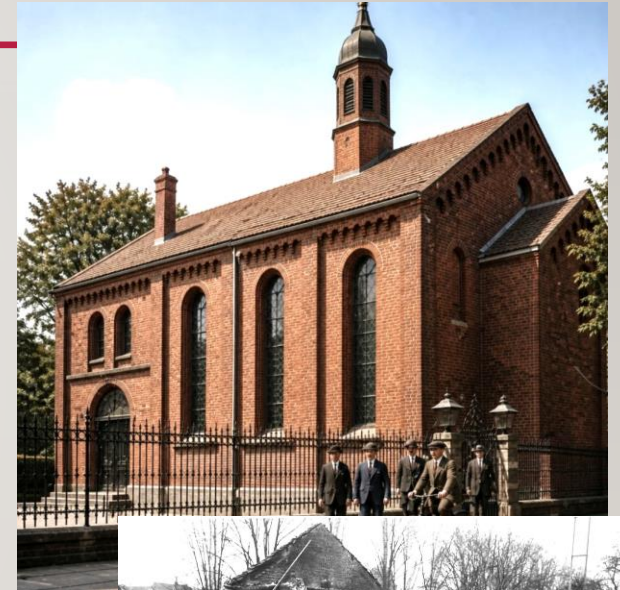
After centuries of restrictions very few Jewish families lived in Hersfeld until the 1850s. After 1866 Prussian Government gave new rules of unlimited settlement for Jews in the town, which motivated Jewish families from the villages (Rhina, Schenklengsfeld) around to move to Hersfeld



1877/78 an independent Jewish community was officially founded and grew again, so that 1896 a new Synagogue and 1898 a Jewish school was built outside the town walls in the Street “Vogelgesang”. Until 1938 the had about 350 members



After 1933 restrictions grew and during “Reichsprogromnacht” 9<sup>th</sup> November 1938 the Synagogue was burnt and Jewish property destroyed, many Jewish people emigrated to UK or USA, those who didn’t, mostly were deported and killed by Nazi in Concentration Camps (KZ)





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# REFORMATION IN HERSFELD – END OF THE MIDDLE AGES



1518 Pastor Heinrich Fuchs began the Reformation. Fuchs and 1523 chaplain Melchior Rinck preached in town church that no one can earn heaven through their own works.



1521, on his way back from the Reichstag in Worms, Martin Luther met the Hersfeld abbot Crato I and, despite the ban, preached at Crato's invitation in the collegiate church.



Pastor Fuchs marries under the impression of the personal encounter with Luther and is expelled from the town by the abbot together with his chaplain Rinck



In 1524 Magister Adam Krafft became the actual reformer of Hersfeld in Hersfeld





MARTIN LUTHER MEETS ABBOT CRATO AT EICHHOF CASTLE ON  
30.4.1521

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# PEASANTS' WAR AND ITS AFTERMATH

- In 1525, the citizens of Hersfeld, under the leadership of Mayor Ottensass, went over to the insurgents in the Peasants' War, stormed the abbey district and plundered the abbot's apartment
- The abbot retires to Eichhof Castle
- Landgrave Philip of Hesse puts down the uprising and hold the supremacy over parts of Hersfeld and some districts paid for
- Landgrave Philipp appoints Magister Adam Krafft as court chaplain, Balthasar Raid becomes the first Protestant preacher in Hersfeld.





# 30 YEARS WAR 1618 - 1648

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- From 1620, the citizens of Hersfeld, suffered under war battles and occupation by Austrian Emperors troops under the leadership of Field Marshall Tilly and by Swedish Troops and their allies (protestant King)
- 1623 Tilly's Army of 15000 soldiers of the Catholic Liga occupied and exploited the Abbey and Town
- During the next 22 years Hersfeld was devastated few times, from 750 houses in town 420 were destroyed, the others partly burnt or devastated
- The Westfalian Peace Treaty ended the war 1648 and Hersfeld became property as profane county to the Landgrave of Hesse-Kassel





Hersfeldt.

MATTHÄUS MERIAN'S  
VIEW OF HERSFELD (C.  
1695)







THE PAINTING BY SCHNUPHASE  
(AROUND 1700)



# TOWNGATES RECONSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 1200 YEARS TOWN ANNIVERSARY 1936

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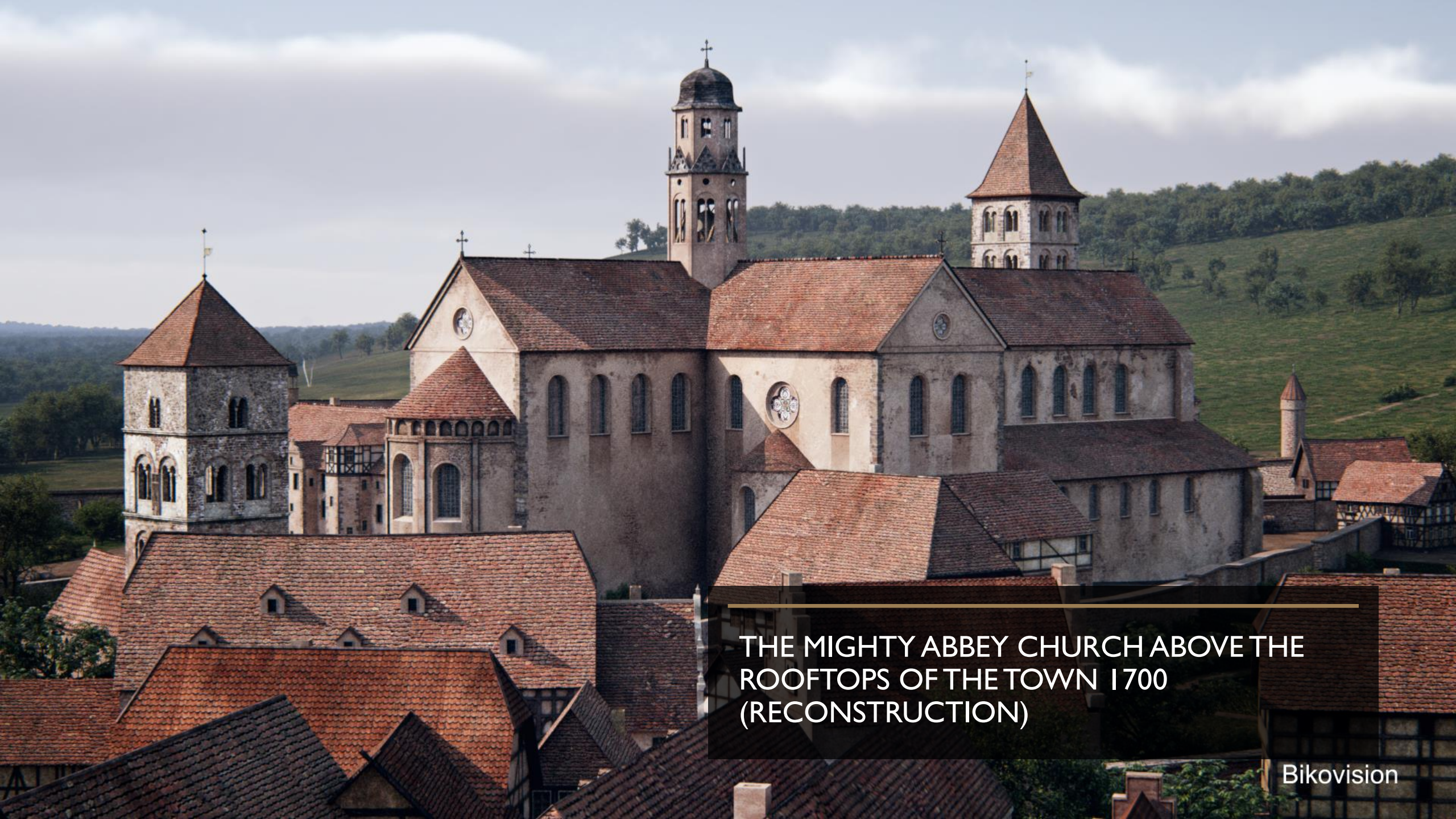


# TOWNGATES RECONSTRUCTION FOR THE 1200 YEARS TOWN ANNIVERSARY 1936

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THE MIGHTY ABBEY CHURCH ABOVE THE  
ROOFTOPS OF THE TOWN 1700  
(RECONSTRUCTION)



# TOWNSCAPE VIEW FROM THE TOWN CHURCH TOWER 1900 AND TODAY

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# MEDIEVAL HOSPITAL ON THE BRINK SQUARE 1900 AND TODAY

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# LINGG MEMORIAL AT LINGG SQUARE 1900 AND TODAY

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# OLD TOWN STREET HANFSACK 1900 AND TODAY

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# ST. CATHERINE TOWER AND ABBEY DISTRICT 1900 AND TODAY

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# HERSFELD DURING SEVEN-YEARS WAR (1761)

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- During the Seven Years' War, in 1761, retreating French troops burned down the collegiate church.
- The supplies stored there were not to fall into the hands of the enemy.
- After that, the ruins served as a "quarry" for a while



HERSFELD DURING  
NAPOLEON'S WAR  
(1807)  
LINGG VON  
LINGENFELD SAVED THE  
TOWN

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# LINGG-SQUARE 1900 AND TODAY

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# 1866 HERSFELD BECOMES PRUSSIAN

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- After the Austro-Prussian War of 1866, the Electorate of Hesse, to which Hersfeld belonged, was annexed by Prussia and thus became part of Kingdom of Prussia.
- This annexation led to a territorial reorganization in the region and the introduction of Prussian structures.
- Organization of the Hersfeld district according to the Prussian district constitution.
- Hersfeld was connected to the Railway Bebra- Frankfurt and got a new railway station





# 1866 HERSFELD BECOMES PRUSSIAN

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- Hersfeld became a garrison town when a barracks was built opposite the main portal of the monastery ruins, in which the fusilier battalion of the 2nd Thuringian Infantry Regiment No. 32 was stationed in 1871.
- From 1890, the building housed a Prussian war school. Today, the tax office is located there.
- From 1876 to 1905 Konrad Duden was director of the Royal Hersfeld Grammar School. During this time, the first edition of the Duden was published in 1880. The school where he taught now bears his name.





DR. KONRAD DUDEN – THE FOUNDER OF MODERN GERMAN SPELLING 1880 –  
HEADMASTER OF THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL 1876 - 1905

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# HERSFELD DURING HITLER'S DICTATORSHIP 1933 - 1939

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- 30.1.1933 Hitler became Reichskanzler - (Chancellor of the 3rd Empire)
- Equalizing of all institutions and administrations – in the whole German III. Reich, also in Hersfeld and district
- Restrictions against Jews (Rassengesetze – laws of Races)
- Policemen got membership in NSDAP
- 1935 new Langemarck Barracks / occupied 1945 by US Army, renamed McPheeters Barracks
- 1936 the 1200th Anniversary of the town was celebrated under Swastika
- 1938 „Reichskristallnacht“ Pogrom
- 1.9.1939 World War II begins







# HERSFELD DURING WORLD WAR II 1939 - 1945

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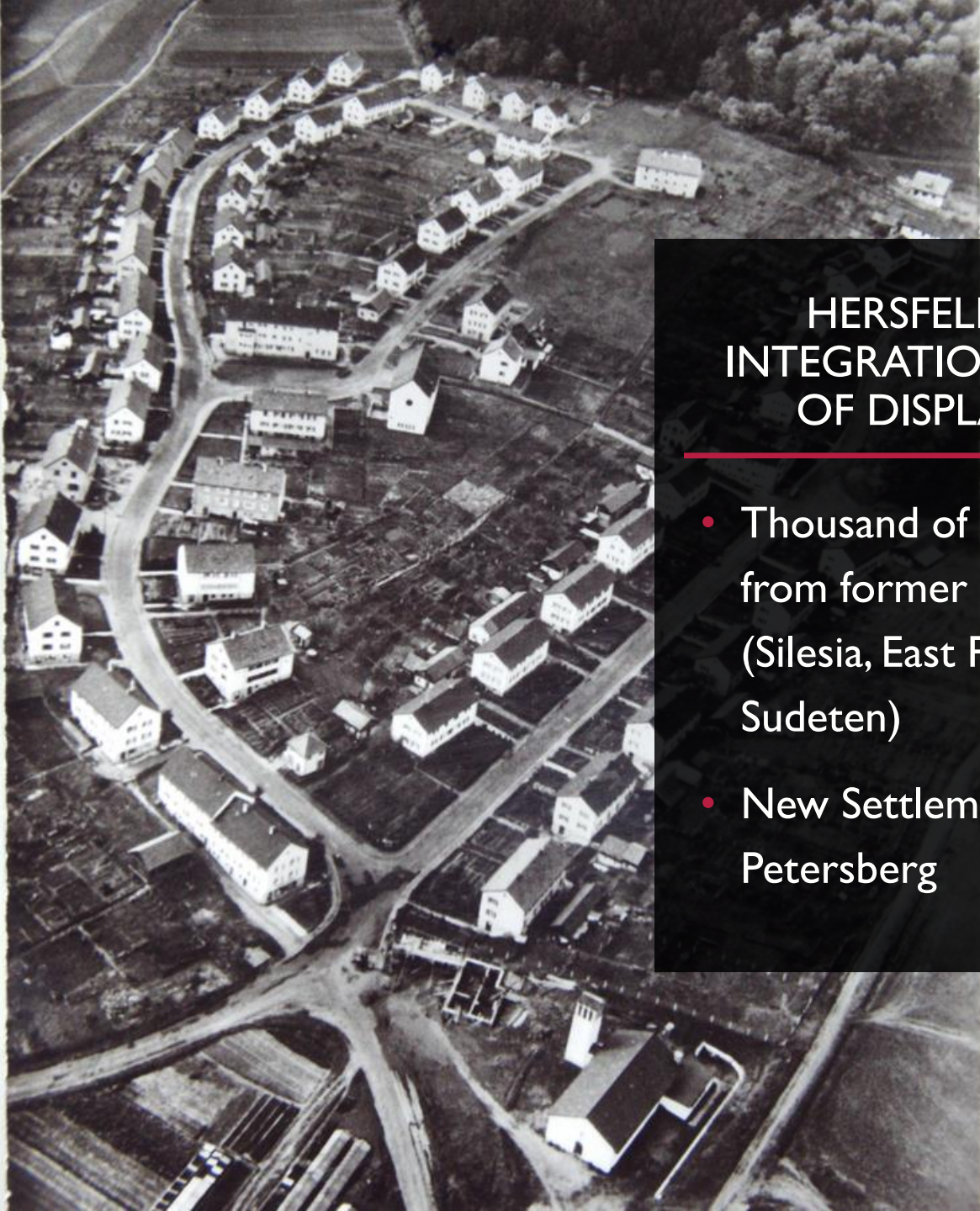
- Location of POW and forced laborers camp „Waldschänke“
- Shootings and American bomb attacks 21.II.1944 on the town
- Some houses get destroyed or damaged
- 1.5.1945 Hersfeld surrendered and gets occupied by US Army











## HERSFELD AFTER 1945 – INTEGRATION OF THOUSANDS OF DISPLACED PERSONS

- Thousand of DPs and refugees from former east German districts (Silesia, East Prussia, Pommerania, Sudeten)
- New Settlements at Eichhof and Petersberg

# MILITARY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE - GERMANY

Amtsblatt der Militär-Regierung Deutschland für die Landkreise Hersfeld-Rotenburg

Hersfeld

Freitag, den 26. April 1946

Nr. 52

Gesetz vom 5. März 1946:

## Durchführung zur Befreiung von Nationalsozialismus und Militarismus

### Amerikanisches Heeresgut muß abgeliefert werden

Alle Personen, die früher bei amerikanischen Einheiten gearbeitet haben oder noch arbeiten und in deren Besitz sich amerikanisches Heeresgut einschl. Kleidungs- und Nahrungsmitteln, befinden, werden im Falle ihrer Verhaftung schwer bestraft werden. Alle diejenigen, die im Besitz von irgendwelchen Anstattungsgegenständen, Kleidungsstücken oder Lebensmitteln sind, haben diese bei der nächsten Truppeneinheit abzuliefern. Das Militär-Gericht erkennt keine Erklärung, daß diese Artikel Geschenke von Angehörigen der amerikanischen Armee seien, an, besonders nicht, wenn keine schriftliche Erklärung, die von einem amerikanischen Offizier unterschrieben ist, vorliegt. In jedem Falle ist das Heeresgut nicht Eigentum einzelner und muß nicht verschenkt werden.

### Fragebogen von Amtsträgern der NSDAP, oder angegliederten Organisationen

Auf Befehl der Militär-Regierung Hersfeld haben alle männlichen und weiblichen Personen der Stadt und des Kreises Hersfeld, die zu irgendeiner Zeit ein Amt in der NSDAP, oder einer ihrer angegliederten nationalsozialistischen Organisationen innegehabt haben, in jedem Falle 10 Tage nach Erscheinen dieser Gazette einen bei der Militär-Regierung erhältlichen Fragebogen an die Militär-Regierung auszufüllen und einzureichen. Nichtbefolgung des Befehls wird bestraft.

### Anmeldung der Rundfunkempfangsgeräte

Besitzer von Rundfunkempfangsgeräten haben ihre Apparate unverzüglich beim Postamt zur Erhebung der Gebühren anzumelden, falls solche Meldung bisher noch nicht erfolgt ist.

Hersfeld, den 25. April 1946.

George S. Iredell, Capt. Cavalry, Mil. Gov. Officer, Commanding

## Aufruf zum 1. Mai!

Zum ersten Male nach dem durch den Waffenstillstand besiegelten Zusammenbruch des Naziregimes begehnen alle Werktätigen, die Schaffenden der Hand wie die des Kopfes, den 1. Mai in innerer Freiheit.

In den letzten 12 Jahren war der 1. Mai das Symbol einer durch Gewalt und Lüge geschaffenen künstlichen Einheit, die nicht als Selbstzweck gewollt wurde, um das Volk zu befreien, sondern die nur ein Mittel sein sollte, um das Volk für den kriegerischen Einsatz im Dienste des maßlosen Machthungers der Tyrannen zu mißbrauchen.

Wenn im neu entstehenden demokratischen Deutschland der 1. Mai zum gesetzlichen Feiertag erklärt wurde, so ist damit gesagt, daß dieser Tag nunmehr das Symbol einer inneren Einheit sein soll, die auf der Wertschätzung jedes schaffenden Menschen beruht, auf der Hochachtung der Freiheit, die nur da geduldet kann, wo nicht Willkür, sondern Recht herrscht. Der 1. Mai ist damit zum Tage der Versöhnung geworden, zu einem Fest friedlicher Arbeit für die Zwecke des Friedens und der Völkerverständigung.

Zweimal innerhalb eines Menschenalters hat das deutsche Volk erlebt, wie in wenigen Kriegsjahren die Ergebnisse der Arbeit von Generationen vernichtet wurden. Breite Schichten haben bereits daraus den Schluß gezogen, daß der Ungeist der historischen Selbstsucht der kriegerischen Aufwiegelung nicht wieder vom deutschen Volk Besitz ergreifen darf, wenn vernommen werden soll, daß eines Tages wieder die Arbeit vieler heiliger Köpfe und Hände in einem neuen Kriege vernichtet wird.

Wir rufen deshalb alle Schaffenden auf, den 1. Mai in der Besinnung auf die demokratische Humanität zu begehen, die Arbeit in Freiheit zum Zwecke der inneren Versöhnung unseres Volkes und der Verständigung unseres Volkes mit den anderen demokratischen Völkern will.

Arbeit, Freiheit, Völkerverständigung!

In diesen Zielen sind sich alle demokratischen Parteien einig. Sie rufen deshalb ihre Anhänger auf, an der Kundgebung teilzunehmen, die der Freie Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund am 1. Mai auch in Hersfeld veranstaltet.

SPD.: gez. Salm  
KPD.: gez. Höcker

CDU.: gez. Fenner  
LDP.: gez. Euler

Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund:  
gez. Harth

### Maikundgebung des Freien deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes

Am 1. Mai um 13.30 Uhr, findet die 4. Rede: „Die Bedeutung des 1. Mai für

### Wahlheimnis wahren!

Die Wahlvorstände werden an ihre Pflicht erinnert, bei der Durchführung der Wahl am 28. April unparteiisch zu verfahren und für strenge Wahrung des Wahlheimnisses Sorge zu tragen. Die Vorschriften, die die Wahrung des Wahlheimnisses bezwecken, sind mit peinlichster Gewissenhaftigkeit zu befolgen.

Die Wahrung des Wahlheimnisses ist entscheidend für die Freiheit der Wahl. Die demokratische Freiheit und Gerechtigkeit müssen für jeden Wahlbeamten oberste Richtschnur des Handelns sein.

Der k. Landrat: Euler.

### Bekanntmachung für den Kreis Rotenburg-F.

Ziffer „Hundsteuer“

Es wird erneut darauf hingewiesen, daß für den Kreis Rotenburg a. F. noch immer die auf Grund der §§ 4, 16, 17 und 20 des Kreis- und Provinzial-Abgabengesetzes vom 23. 4. 1906 in der Fassung des Gesetzes vom 26. 8. 1921 und des Kreisabgabengesetzes vom 25. 2. 1925 erlassene Hundsteuerordnung in Kraft ist.

Hiernach sind für jeden über 3 Monate alten Hund Kreissteuern zu zahlen, und zwar für den ersten Hund jährlich 6 RM, für den zweiten Hund jährlich 16 RM, für den dritten und jeden weiteren Hund jährlich 16 RM zu entrichten. Die Zahlung hat in halbjährigen Teilbeträgen, und zwar in den ersten 14 Tagen eines halben Jahres durch Vermittlung der Gemeindekasse des Wohnortes an die Kreisverwaltungsstelle in Rotenburg a. F. zu erfolgen. Für den Hund, welcher im Laufe eines halben Jahres steuerpflichtig wird, sowie für den steuerpflichtigen Hund, welcher im Laufe eines halben Jahres angeschafft worden ist, muß die volle Steuer für das laufende Halbjahr entrichtet werden.

Wer einen im Kreis Rotenburg a. F. bereits versteuerten Hund erwirbt oder mit einem solchen neu anzieht oder einen Hund an Stelle eines eingezogenen, versteuerten Hundes erwirbt, darf für das laufende Halbjahr die gezahlte Steuer auf die zu zahlende in Anrechnung bringen.

Wer einen Hund anschafft, oder mit einem Hund neu anzieht, hat denselben binnen 14 Tagen nach der Anschaffung bezw. dem Anzug bei dem Bürgermeister des Wohnortes anmelden.

Neugeborene Hunde gelten als angeschafft, sobald dieselben 3 Monate alt sind.

Jeder Hund, welcher angeschafft worden, abhanden gekommen oder eingezogen ist, muß spätestens innerhalb der ersten 14 Tage nach dem Ablauf des halben Jahres, innerhalb dessen der Abgang erfolgt ist, abgemeldet werden. Wird eine solche Abmeldung unterlassen, besteht weiterhin Zahlungsverpflichtung. Von der Steuer sind befreit:

- a) Die berufsmäßigen Hirten, bezüglich dreier Hunde für jede Herde.
- b) Filide, bezüglich der gehaltenen Führerhunde.
- c) Staats-, Kommunal- oder Privatforstbeamte oder Beamte, die behördlich mit dem Forstschutz beauftragt sind, soweit die Hunde lediglich im Dienst benutzt werden.
- d) Landjäger, Polizeibeamte und Nachtwächter, die einen Hund im Polizeidienst der Gemeinden und Kreise gebrauchen.



# HERSFELD – IMPORTANT TEXTILE LOCATION IN THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

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WEAVING MILL GEORG BRAUN



LOOM





# KONRAD ZUSE – THE INVENTOR OF THE MODERN PROGRAMMABLE COMPUTER IN BAD HERSFELD

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# BAD HERSFELD'S INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES 2025

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AFOTEK GmbH –  
Plants for Surface  
Technology

Synova GmbH –  
Metall- und  
Kunststofftechnik  
GmbH

Asteelflash Hersfeld  
GmbH, manufacturer  
of electronic devices

VeriFone Hersfeld  
GmbH, manufacturer  
of electronic devices

RS Components  
GmbH, supplier of  
electronic  
components

Inovag Ladenbau  
GmbH a Co KG,  
supplier of shopfitting  
and interior design

Grenzebach BSH  
GmbH, mechanical  
engineering company

TROX X-Fans GmbH,  
Air Conditioning and  
Fan Systems

TLT Turbo GmbH,  
Machine manufacturer  
- Fans and ventilation  
systems

Georg Börner GmbH,  
Chemical Plant for  
Roof and Building  
Protection ...



# SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN BAD HERSFELD

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- University of Applied Sciences for Social Accident Insurance (HGU)
- THM – University of Applied Sciences of Central Hesse – Centre for Dual Studies and Studies plus
- Study Seminar Fulda for Primary, Secondary and Special Schools
- VHS – Volkshochschule for Adults
- Vocational Schools Obersberg BSO
- Model School (College) Obersberg MSO
- Ludwig-Fresenius-Schule – Private Vocational School for Nursing Professions
- Schools for adults in East Hesse
- Comprehensive schools GS Geistal, GS Obersberg, Konrad-Duden-Schule
- Primary schools: Wilhelm-Neuhaus-Schule, Linggschule, An der Sommerseite, Asbach, Sorga, Ernst-von-Harnack-Schule,
- Special school: Friedrich-Fröbel-Schule



# SCHOOLS IN BAD HERSFELD – 3 SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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# SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN BAD HERSFELD

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- University of Applied Sciences for Social Accident Insurance (HGU)
- THM – University of Applied Sciences of Central Hesse – Centre for Dual Studies and Studies plus
- Study Seminar Fulda for Primary, Secondary and Special Schools



# BAD HERSFELD AS A SPA AND HEALTH RESORT

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# HOSPITALS IN BAD HERSFELD

- Regional Klinikum Bad Hersfeld
- Vitalisklinik GmbH - Rehabilitation Center
- Clinics for psychosomatic illnesses
- Orthopaedic Clinic
- Clinic and Institute of Psychiatry





BAD HERSFELD THEATRE  
FESTIVAL SINCE 1951



# THE BAD HERSFELD THEATER-FESTIVAL

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In 1951, Johannes Klein founded the Bad Hersfeld Festival in the monastery ruins with art-interested citizens.

From 1952 to 2009, the festival took place under the patronage of the German Federal Presidents.

In 1972, a tent rain roof was installed over the spectator stand of the monastery ruins.

In 1985, the abbey district was redesigned. In 2026, the Festival has celebrated its 70th anniversary





# 1968 INAUGURATION OF THE PEDESTRIAN ZONE





# NEW QUARTER - SCHILDEPARK

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- Change from industrial quarter to modern cultural complex
- Schilde-Halle as Congress and Concert facility
- Press Buildings
- WortReich – Museum of Language
- Malmesbury Square



HERSFELDER ZEITUNG AND  
KREISANZEIGER

# PRESS BUILDINGS IN SCHILDEPARK

KREIS  
ANZEIGER



# MALMESBURY SQUARE LANDMARK

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## **Iconic Red Telephone Box**

The traditional red telephone box is a classic British icon, adding historic charm to Malmesbury Square and attracting visitors.

## **Catholic Lullus-Sturmius Church**

North of the Malmesbury Square is the Lullus-Sturmius Church, commemorating the founders of the Monastery of medieaval Hersfeld an the first eremitage

## **Historic Architecture and Community**

Historic industrial buildings frame the square, the red telephone box is a landmark and gathering spot for the community.





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RATSKELLER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!