

## **The Green Route (The route in the town centre)**

### **1. The market square with a story to tell**



It's the heart of the town, a trading place, a social meeting place, an excavation site and a tourist attraction in one. The town square has experienced many phases of history since the city was founded. But it wasn't until 2004 that the history of the hanseatic town of Anklam was literally reflected on the newly designed market place. The so-called "Century Inscriptions", a design never seen before in Germany, is a historical guide which takes you step by step through history.

### **2. The Church of St Nicholas**



Built in 1280 in honour of Saint Nicholas, patron saint of sailors, fishermen and traders in High Gothic style architecture, the Church of St Nicholas was both a landmark for the town and a symbol of the freedom and prosperity of the Hanseatic citizens. The church steeple served as a guide, greeting the sailors as far away as the Oder or Stettin lagoon. The construction of the tower, pillars, arches and the murals began between 1320 to 1340. In the year 1336 the Anklamer citizen Thedericus Nordow donated the altar. The tower was

completed around 1400. The completion date for the church was probably about 1498 after the installation of the choir stalls. The installation of the first guild pews followed in 1501.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, the usual tombs of wealthy citizens families emerged in the chapels of the St. Nicholas Church. The organ gallery, corresponding to a drawing by the royal building foreman Märtens, was begun in 1850 and the organ (Kaltschmidt, Stettin) followed. This was inaugurated by Bishop D. Ritschlin in 1851.

After the single-storey chapels were removed in 1868, building inspector Butterkirch introduced structural changes to the organ gallery. The tracery in the windows was renewed, as were parts of the cornice. During major renovation work from 1907 to 1909 the church received coloured lead-glass windows, a new organ, new pews, various other fixtures and the walls were painted. The inauguration of the renovated church was held on 23rd April 1909. In 1945, in the last few days of the war, the church was almost completely destroyed by bombs, apart from the exterior walls. The support group 'Förderkreis' was founded in 1994 to prevent the church from becoming completely derelict. As of 1995, the church received a provisional roof with the aim of gradually working towards using the building more often. In 1997, the church floor was paved, with the result that it could be made accessible to the public in 1999. After 2000, the safety procedures to the mural crown were completed and the church celebrated the 720th anniversary of its construction. The nave has been open for functions since 2003. Numerous private donations made it possible for the Nikolaus window on the south side of the church to be recommissioned and this was reinstalled in 2004. The renovation work to the tower is now largely completed, allowing visitors to climb it. The protruding chancel at the end of the side aisle is unique for Northern Germany and this, along with the valuable frescoes from the Middle Ages, various tombstones and the baptismal font, the coat of arms windows and the windows with the inscriptions of the contributors are some characteristic features of the church.

### **03. The Lilienthal house**



The engineer, aviation pioneer and inventor of human flight Otto Lilienthal spent his childhood in this house from 1852-1864. Together with his brother Gustav, he undertook his first flight tests in the courtyard of the building. The house was owned by the Lilienthal family from 1852 – 1872.

#### 04. The Peene Gate Bridge



The Peene Gate Bridge is a modern attraction in the hanseatic city of Anklam. Since the city was founded in the 13th century the part of Anklam north of the Peene was connected by a wooden bridge with the rest of the town. Until the end of the 19th century the bridge was a pure wooden structure that had to be opened for shipping. Up to 1924 the Peene was spanned by a single-lane wooden bridge with two halves (bascules). After 1899 a railway bridge with a wood / steel structure was built right next to this bridge and both bridges were replaced in 1926 by a bridge made of a steel construction which was very modern for its time. This construction was replaced in the 70s due to technical wear by the "old Peenebrücke" which was a makeshift building designed for a maximum of seven years. This provisional arrangement was called "the world's longest bridge", because the curvature of the bridge body was so strong that the other end could not be seen at the foot of the bridge. Ultimately, the provisional arrangement lasted for as long as 21 years. The Peene River Gate Bridge was opened on 13.10.1994 in the same place. The wooden bridge construction with its two pylons now connects the southern and northern part of Anklam over the river Peene, but is only for pedestrians and cyclists. It is also affectionately known as the "small Golden Gate".

#### 05. The Wessel mill



The mill was built by miller Christian Papke for 1650 thalers in 1728 as the first Dutch or smock windmill in Anklam. It has been the most important building on the Peendamm (Peene embankment) for a long time. In 1872 the mill came into the hands of the Wessel family.

During the time when Anklam was Swedish it served as seat for the Peendamm's Low Court until 1806. From 1815 to 1874, the local council of the municipality "Anklam Dam" was located here. The mill was in operation until about 1920. This mill is a special form of house smock or Dutch windmill which has a house-like base and a gallery around it. The mill was built in 1728 when Anklam was divided. At the time when the town belonged to Prussia, the Peendamm was Swedish territory. Until 1922 it operated with wind, afterwards the technology was driven by motor power. In 1958, the gallery and also the cap had to be removed. Today the support group for the Wessel mill holds its meetings there. The support group is committed to the preservation and the restoration of the mill and holds various exhibitions and events. Visits are possible by appointment.

## **06. The "Holy Spirit" institution**



A building called the 'Holy Spirit' in Castle Street was already mentioned in the year 1272. It was used to accommodate the poor and the sick and some land also belonged to it. It was here, that monks built the Holy Spirit hospital in 1338. The building caught fire in 1376 and again in 1659 but was rebuilt both times. In 1781, it became a workhouse for the poor. Later the prebendary had a right of abode for life. From 1958 to 1993, the building was used as a nursing home. Today, part of the town administration is located here.

## **07. The Garrison Church**



The garrison church stands on the site of the Holy Spirit Church, which was first mentioned in 1772. In 1376 and 1659, after the restoration in Gothic style, the church burned down. The

garrison church was built between 1738 and 1741 as a Prussian garrison. French soldiers set up their field bakery in the church there in 1806. In 1854, the Church was then converted for residential purposes for elderly citizens. The building was badly damaged in the Second World War and restored in 1954. Today, the building is home to the social welfare organization called the “People's Solidarity”.

## **08. The Old Grammar School**



Mayor Carl Friedrich Kirstein promoted the re-establishment of the Pomerania grammar school and the construction of a schoolhouse in 1847. It was built between 1850 and 1852 according to the plans of the royal court architect Gottgetreu in neo-Gothic style. In a short time, the high school became one of the most important schools in Western Pomerania. The sunspot researcher Gustav Spörer taught here until 1871. The engineer and aviation pioneer Otto Lilienthal studied here from 1856-1864.

## **09. The Gothic gabled house**



The Gothic gabled house is located on the corner of Frauenstraße (Maids' road) on Pferdemarkt (Horse Market Square). First mentioned at the time of the Hanseatic League in 1406, it is one of the most impressive buildings and is the oldest preserved town house and building in the city. In order to place many houses side by side as possible, buildings were constructed with the gable end facing onto the street or onto the market place. It was decided to align the gable toward Frauenstraße and Pferdemarkt. The gable of this brick building is decorated with Gothic elements, such as can also be found in the church, bearing witness to



the former wealth of the city and its citizens. The stately gable of the house described is preserved. Behind the gable was originally a storage room. The grandson of Benjamin Scheele, Carl Wilhelm Scheele (1742-1786), was recognized as a chemist, through his discovery of oxygen, hydrogen, chlorine, manganese among other things. In 1997, the restoration of the Gothic gabled house was completed and it was handed over to fulfill a different purpose. Since then, the gabled house has been home to the registry office and the meeting room of the Municipal Corporation of the Hanseatic Town of Anklam and group rooms of parties represented in parliament.

## 10. St Mary's Church



St. Mary's Church in Anklam is one of the most beautiful Gothic brick churches in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. The construction took place mid-13th century. Parts of the planned double-tower installation and of the rectangular choir room have been preserved from this time. St. Mary's Church was first mentioned in 1296. At the end of the 15th century the chancel was expanded to create a 3-nave layout, raising the vault in the main chancel, the constructing the vestry and chapel extensions in the south aisle. The church has been preserved until today in this form. In 1488 St. Mary's Church was named St. Mary's Chapel. During the siege of 1676/77 by Brandenburg there was damage to the church, which was repaired with the help of the electoral prince. In 1778 and 1849, the ridge turret with little bells was removed from the eastern ridge turret. In 1806 the church served as a chamber for hay and straw for the French. In 1814 the new organ was inaugurated and in 1816 the burnt tower was renovated. After another fire the tower was raised nearly 100 meters. In addition to this, the church received new bells. During interior renovation work in 1936 Gothic frescoes were exposed on pillars and the vault which originate from the 2nd half of the 14th century. The worst damage was done to the church during the bombings in 1943. Valuable items of artifacts had been moved to the castle in Schwerin, but they were destroyed in 1945 when the castle caught fire. In 1947 the tower was restored once again, this time with a gable roof. The church received a high altar with crucifix and wings, the so-called "Apostle Bell" (both came from the Church of St. Nicholas) and two new bells. The replacement of the rescued main picture of the high altar, the Virgin Mary and the installation of a new Schuke organ with 2 manuals and 30 registers followed in 1962. In 1971 the organ received a new Schuke-positive with 5 registers and an attached pedal.

## 11. The Post Office



In 1878, the Post and Telegraph Office was relocated to the building which had been established on behalf of the Imperial Post Office. The first Anklam town telecommunications equipment arrived here in 1894. Increasing postal and telecommunications traffic made it necessary to build extensions in 1905 and again in 1925/1926. In 1955 the main entrance was moved during the enlargement of the main hall. The building was used until 1997 as a post office.

## 12. Luisa Lyceum (now Käthe-Kollwitz-School)



The building was built between 1903 and 1905 primarily as a private secondary school for young ladies. At the instigation of the mayor and music lover Hans Löwe, the school received a generous and unique auditorium which has since been used for various cultural events. The owner was the Count of Schwerin. In the 2nd World War, the school served as a hospital. One of the few remaining buildings undamaged by the war, it was used between 1945 and 1949 as the Town Hall.

### 13. Stonegate



Stonegate has been the landmark of Anklam for centuries. It was first mentioned in 1404 in the book of the city and it was probably the first stone-built town gate of Anklam. For many years it was the entrance to the ancient and once powerful hanseatic town of Anklam. This 32 m high gate in brick gothic style is the only remaining example of a total of 6 city gates belonging to the medieval fortifications of Anklam. It was probably built in around 1250 and was originally only half as high. Around 1450, it was increased to its present height. Recesses in the wall at the top and its simple design suggest that it originally had a wooden parapet walk. With the advent of firearms, the magistrate of the city initiated the construction of a gate before 1570. In the Thirty Years War in 1634, a ravelin was built up and equipped with cannons. In the course of the Seven Years War in 1759 all fortifications were destroyed. The stone gate was left untouched and was henceforth used as city prison until around 1900 by building on prison cells. The last execution took place in the corresponding court, the forecourt of the present museum, in 1853. The gatehouse was unused for almost 100 years but was transformed into a museum in 1986 with considerable efforts by the cultural heritage enthusiasts. After only 3 years of construction the building had regained its architectural beauty and historical significance and the Museum of Local History in the Stonegate opened its doors for the first time for visitors in 1989. In addition to local culture and the permanent exhibition of urban and regional history, numerous special exhibitions of art, nature and folklore are offered by visitors. In the five floors of the Stonegate Museum there are exhibits which reveal the turbulent history of the town and region, from prehistoric times and early history, from the Slavic, Hanseatic, Swedish and Prussian times and from recent history (1933-1949). Lectures, exhibition talks and small concerts are part of the programme of events such as educational packages and special guided tours. The former guardhouse leads into the interior of the stone gate. The tower climb (111 steps) rewards the guests with a breathtaking view over the town and the Peene Valley moors. The Stonegate is one of the most beautiful brick gates in Northern Germany.



#### 14. Cothenius School



On November 5<sup>th</sup> 1827 this building was inaugurated as the "General Town School". The city wall still passed through here up to the late 18th century. The boys and girls originally had separate entrances. At times, it served only as a boys' school. The school is named after Christian Andreas Cothenius who was born in Anklam in 1708 and became personal physician to Friedrich II. The writer Uwe Johnson was a student at this school from 1940 to 1944.

#### 15. The well



The well was rediscovered during roadwork in 2001 and promptly restored. It still served in 1900 to supply drinking water. It has a depth of 7 meters and a diameter of 1.60 m.