

# 40 City Spots



A walk through Neumünster's inner city



Stadt  
Neumünster

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# 40 City Spots

A walk through Neumünster's inner city



## Your tour guides

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Neumünster's Stadtpunkte (City Spots) invite you to take a walk through the inner city. Along your way you will pass 40 different spots: important buildings, historic sites, streets and squares. The map on page 18/19 will help you to discover the spots throughout the city. At each site you will find a board with more details about the respective spot in German.

You can also book one of our knowledgeable **tour guides** who will lead you through Neumünster. **Group tours** are available in German, English and Danish. Please contact our friendly staff at Neumünster's tourist information offices at (+49) 04321 - 43280 or our coordinating tour guide Urte Grode at (+49) 04321 - 51331 for more information.

**Individual tours in German** are offered year-round on the **first Saturday of each month**. The tours start at the tourist information office in one of the pavilions on main square (Großflecken 34a) at **10 a.m.** and cost **3,- EUR** per person (free for children up to 14 years).

**Tickets** must be purchased in advance at one of our tourist information offices either in the city centre (Großflecken 34a) or at the Designer Outlet Neumünster (Oderstraße 10).

## 40 City Spots in Neumünster

no	object	page
01	Großflecken (main square)	6
02	Pavillons (building)	7
03	Lütjenstraße (street)	8
04	Mühlenbrücke (street)	8
05	Along the pond	9
06	Bastion (building)	9
07	Gänsemarkt (square)	10
08	Am Teich (street)	10
09	Urinal and railway bridge	11
10	St. Maria-St. Vicelin church	11
11	Museum Tuch + Technik	12
12	Civic centre	13
13	Kleinflecken (square)	14
14	Haus Westphalen (building)	14
15	Vicelin church	15
16	Haus der Begegnung (building)	16
17	Simonssche Villa and park	16
18	Paper mill	16
19	Hinselmannhaus (building)	17
20	Café Oldehus	17
	<b>Map with recommended route</b>	18
21	Caspar-von-Saldern-Haus (building)	20
22	Haartallee (street)	21
23	VR Bank Neumünster (building)	21
24	Old town hall	22
25	Fürstthof (street)	23
26	Holstenbrewery	23
27	Villa Wachholtz and Gerisch sculpture park	24
28	Marienstraße (street)	25
29	Klaus-Groth-School	25
30	Theodor-Litt-School	26
31	Die "alte" Ortskrankenkasse (building)	26
32	Anschar church	27
33	Sparkasse Südholstein (building)	28
34	Kuhberg (street)	29
35	Kieler Brücke (bridge)	29
36	Klosterinsel (monastery island)	30
37	Villa Köster (building)	31
38	Rencks Park (park)	31
39	Holstenstraße (street)	32
40	Old post office	32
	Imprint	33



## 01 Großflecken (main square)

The Großflecken has always been the heart of Neumünster. Here, on the main square change was constant: deals were made here, traffic went right through it, festivals took place on it and in the inns along the square people talked about politics.



### Chronology of events:

- In 1332 Augustinian monks allegedly left the cloister at "Lütten Bleek" (Kleinflecken) because the busy "Grote Bleek" (Großflecken) and the people passing through disturbed their tranquility.
- In 1764 Paul Petrowitz, the Russian crown prince and duke of Schleswig and Holstein, granted Neumünster its town charter, the "Kayserliche Marktprivileg" (imperial market privilege). At the request of bailiff Baron von Mardefeldt a big water hole was filled up and linden trees were planted.
- In 1769 a big water hole was filled up and linden trees were planted at the request of bailiff Baron von Mardefeldt.
- In 1780, on August 11 a large fire destroyed 46 thatched roof buildings and 39 smaller buildings.
- In 1813 the Cossacks pitched their camp under the linden trees.
- In 1832 the spectacular construction of the artificial road from Altona to Kiel was finished. The rubble of the just demolished Bartholomäus church at Kleinflecken was supposedly used as ground material for this road at Großflecken.
- In 1846 on July 20, a big public assembly was held on the market square and an open letter to the Danish King Christian VIII was read out.
- In 1848 the German Revolution reached Neumünster on March 24. Turmoil and riots broke out on Großflecken.
- In 1888 the cloth factory ("Ahlbecksche Tuchfabrik") at Großflecken 54 burned down, leaving 12 people dead and 9 severely injured.
- In 1923, during the period of inflation rioting occurs on Großflecken.

- In 1925 The celebrations for Neumünster's 800-year anniversary attract 25.000 visitors.
- In 1929, on August 1 farmers organized a protest march from the "Tonhalle" to the cattle halls on Rendsburger Straße. Hans Fallada, during that time community journalist at the "General Anzeiger", was inspired by this incident to write his Neumünster novel "Peasants, Bosses and Bombs".
- In 1945 the town centre was heavily hit by bombs. Brits occupied the market square and once a place with a vibrant market life the square turned into a black market. The farmer's market reopened
- In 1947 the farmer's market reopened on neighbouring Kleinflecken During the 1960s missing buildings were replaced by concrete constructions. Everything not fitting into the modern cityscape was torn down during the next two decades. Heavy traffic rolled through the city centre on E 3 and Großflecken was turned into a big parking area.



- In 1960 the old linden trees disappeared one after another.
- In 1968 a pedestrian underpass connecting the west of the Großflecken with the east was inaugurated but closed again when the square was redesigned.
- In 1972 the inauguration of the motorway relieved the traffic situation in Neumünster's city centre.
- In 1983 a traffic plan aiming for a comprehensive traffic calming was developed.
- In 1984 Hamburg-based architect Rogalla won the call for bids and was ordered to redesign the square. Construction works started four years later, on March 2, 1988.
- In 1991 the new Großflecken was inaugurated during the town festival Holstenköste.
- In 1996 the farmer's market also opened on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and in 2010 the weekly farmer's market returned to Großflecken for all market days.

## 02 Pavillons

In the course of redesigning Neumünster's main square Großflecken three pavilions were built on the square close to the street Lütjenstraße by the end of the 1980s. They were planned by Hamburg-based



architects Dieter Rogalla + Michael Kitzmann and represent the constructivist architecture of the late 20th century. Together with the young linden trees the pavilions emphasize the square's effect after its redesign. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Neumünster's public utility company (Stadtwerke) in 1999 the steel sculpture "Turbo" by Kiel based sculptor Günter Wiese was unveiled in front of one of the pavilions, symbolising a turbine.

### 03 Lütjenstraße (street)

"Lütje Straat" means "little street" and this street has always connected the secular with the ecclesiastical hamlet Neumünster. Until the 18th century there used to be a pillory opposite the little square "Mühlenplatz", just in front of the fire station. Fellow citizens who committed minor offenses were named and shamed here. For example Margarethe Bluncken from Mühlenhof who suffered from toothache: in 1757 she smoked a pipe "in between things that could easily catch fire". But that was prohibited as all houses back then had thatched roofs so she had to publicly stand at the pillory with the pipe around her neck

for an hour and had to bear the scorn of the Neumünster citizens. The fire station was located right at the pond and equipped with three fire extinguishers. Every house owner also had his own fire equipment such as hand sprayers, leather buckets, ladders and fire pokers. Since 1973 Lütjenstraße is a busy pedestrian area.



### 04 Mühlenbrücke (street)

Only the name is proof for the old grain mill that was located at this site until 1981. Monks had dammed the pond to use the power of the Schwale river and up until 1899 the pond was called mill's pond.

At that time the city council of Neumünster had bought the "mill's pond including the riverbed for 160.000 marks" from miller Tode. His mill was relocated to the outskirts in 1983, the area along Lütjenstraße was redeveloped and only the inn "Zur Mühle" kept its original site. The inn is of particular importance for Neumünster as writer Hans

Fallada in his book "Peasants, Bosses and Bombs" (1931) wrote about a drinking session of reputable Neumünster citizens that took place here. That caused confusion among the people and the identities of the literary characters were easily revealed and a list was passed from house to house.



### 05 Along the pond



The pond was first mentioned in records in 1502 although there is some evidence that dates back to the 13th century. The pond has always been the centre of the city. With the Schwale river the clothmakers and later also the industrial plants had direct access to water. Tanneries, cloth mills and breweries used the river

to dispose of their wastewater and it therefore sparkled in any imaginable colour. Because of the constant build up of sediment deposits the pond has to be dredged from time to time.

### 06 Bastion



Mayor Walther Lehmkuhl inaugurated the widened bridge "Kieler Brücke" in 1952 because traffic had increased dramatically during the postwar period. Trucks and cars were driving right through Neumünster's inner city on the E 3. The traffic volume decreased again after the bypass and the motorway

A 7 was built. During the 1990s the Kieler Brücke was widened and a bastion was built at the expense of the pond. From the bastion you have a panoramic view of the pond which you can also circle from

here. Neumünster owes this loop along the water to the lawyer Karl Barlach who was very attached to his hometown and after World War II exchanged his bombed out piece of land with the city council of Neumünster.

#### 07 Gänsemarkt (square)

The Gänsemarkt square has been redesigned several times during the last centuries. Monuments typical for the spirit of the respective time were erected and disappeared again once political views changed. Since 1893 the building of the publishing house Holsteinischer Courier dominated it, thus turning the square into the centre of communication in Neumünster. The first distinctive building in Wilhelminian style



was completely destroyed by bombs in April 1945. Four years later the newspaper could be published again and at the same site a new five-storey publisher's building was inaugurated in 1954, remodelled and later extended by a shopping arcade. The whole block of houses along this side of the square was demolished in 2014. The Commerzbank house designed by Kiel-based architect Leo Stapf (1889 - 1954) was built in 1922 and substituted an insignificant preceding building. The new building lagged behind the architectural development of that time but showed a high level of artistic quality. As the first renovation after World War II was not in favour of the building the second renovation in 1996 restored its old architectural quality.

#### 08 Am Teich (street)

As old as the pond itself is the street passing it. During the 19th century the weaving looms of the clothmakers clattered in every house along this street. Washing the wool and rinsing out the colour was made possible by short footbridges along the pond. It is presumed



that after digging the pond in 1502 a barrage was built at the location of today's Wasbeker Brücke. For flood protection a bypass channel was constructed still existing today as "Schleusau". For centuries the barrage was an obstacle for migrating fish and other small animals. A few years ago a fish ladder was built for the conservation of certain species such as sea trout and sea lamprey.

#### 09 Urinal and railway bridge

In 1904 the railway tracks were elevated in Neumünster and the city could finally expand. Along Linienstraße the constant up and down of the rail-crossing gates highly influenced pedestrians as well as bikes and carriages. Although the urinal is a relic from the 19th century it is still fully functional. In Wilhelminian times these public bathrooms



sprung up in all places where crowds of people were expected. The site of this particular urinal had to do with the construction of the catholic church St.Maria-St.Vicelin located just opposite the urinal. This treasure is an early steel construction with wrought-iron decoration.

#### 10 St. Maria-St. Vicelin church

A week after Easter 1893 the Catholic church St.Maria-St.Vicelin in Neumünster was inaugurated. 300 years after the reformation a Catholic priest was in the city again because during the diaspora the

community had grown fast. After the weavers' strike broke out in 1888 Neumünster factory owners sent out agents to the Eichsfeld and Silesia regions to recruit workers. During only six months the number of Catholics increased rapidly from 372 to 800 people. Factory owner Sager recognized the need to offer the Catholic immigrants a church and a school and provided the ground to build a church. The diocese of Osnabrück supported the construction work financially and provided for the interior. The relief above the entrance portal is made of sandstone from the Baumberge area near Münster. The church was designed by architect Emil Brettschneider from Altona after a first draft



by master builder Alexander Behnes (1843-1924) from Osnabrück and built in neo-romanticism style.

It was untroubled by war damages and was completely renovated in 1965. For its 100th anniversary members of the community as well as citizens of Neumünster supported the restoration of the church. [www.st-vicelin.de](http://www.st-vicelin.de)

## 11 Museum Tuch + Technik

The big "vitrine" (glass case) at Kleinflecken was designed by architects Wuttke + Kekeritz from Neumünster and built from 2005 to 2007. The interior can only be accessed via a gallery and it has a direct connection to the civic centre. On 2.000 square metres exhibition space impressive machines which were collected and professionally maintained by the Friends of the Museum are presented. Other objects offer an insight into the town history of Neumünster and life in this city. Visitors can travel through 2.000 years of history and discover spinning wheels, weaving looms, spoolers and industrial machines, some of them still fully functional and regularly demonstrated. The museum also offers



interactive station, for example the vertical loom presenting old-time weaving techniques or the textile lab where fibers can be analysed through a microscope. Media points present contemporary witness interviews with textile workers and cloth manufacturers as well as educational films.

*Opening times:*

*Tue - Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat/Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;*

*public guided tours every Sunday at 2 p.m.*

## 12 Civic centre

After decades of struggle on May 4, 1983 the city council decided to build the civic centre at Kleinflecken designed by architects Prof. Holscher, Axelsson & Rasmussen from Copenhagen. A prestigious building emerged on the same site where only rubble and ruins were left after World War II and was inaugurated in February 1986. The civic



centre offers a theatre, conference and exhibition rooms as well as a restaurant for events of any kind. The entrance hall is connected to the neighbouring Museum Tuch + Technik.

### 13 Kleinflecken (square)

Originally this square was called "Lütten Bleek" meaning little piece of land and Flecken means hamlet or small town. The farmers, cottagers and small farmers who lived in the houses surrounding a small square ploughed a poor and sandy soil with an accordingly limited output. In 1860 proactive citizens formed a "Verschönerungsverein", an association to improve the state of the square. The pond was dredged and the material brought to the square. That way the basis for planting was given and trees, flowers and lawn were planted on the grounds. This idyll was dramatically changed during the war and post-war years because from one day to the next the square was reduced to rubble. After World War II the farmer's market was relocated to the Kleinflecken on Tuesdays and Fridays and for the rest of the week the square served as parking area. It was redesigned in 2008 with public participation. Today the wide and green square is a place for encounters and communication and can be seen as a welcoming entrance to the civic



centre and the museum. It can be used for markets or any other events and is open to and accessible for all people. The Kleinflecken also serves as local square for the neighbourhood. The weekly farmer's market moved back to the Großflecken after 60 years.

### 14 Haus Westphalen (building)



This listed half-timbered house from the 18th century is one of the oldest houses in the city. Rich stuccowork decorates the rococo hall on the first floor of the building. Its new owners restored it in 2004 and it is now used as office building. In

1865 Luise and Laura Kellermann founded a private school for young privileged ladies at Haus Westphalen to teach languages. This school laid the foundation for the

merging of several private schools in 1888, leading to the establishment of Klaus-Groth-Schule as secondary school.

### 15 Vicelin church

It is said that Ansgar, the first apostle of the North had built a wooden church on the site of today's Vicelin church between 814 and 840. In 1127 archbishop Adalbero from Bremen visited the town of Meldorf with his entourage. A delegation from the Faldera district in Mittelholstein managed to convince priest Vicelin to visit their parish for missionary activities. In 1136 Vicelin built a church along the Schwale river close to Kleinflecken and called it Bartholomäus church. The impressive building gave the city its name: novum monasterium - new monastery - Neumünster. At the same time an Augustinian monastery with nine monks was established. The church and monastery were raided several times and partially destroyed but they were always rebuilt. During his time in Neumünster Vicelin founded churches and parishes in Bosau, Bad Segeberg and Oldenburg. In 1154 he died of a stroke in Neumünster. His mortal remains were buried in the church but later transported to Bordesholm from where they have been



missing for centuries now. For almost 700 years people from the Neumünster parish were baptized in the Bartholomäus church and buried in the cemetery surrounding the church. But the building was dilapidated and had been struck by lightning several times. So when the church bells came crashing down in 1762 and hit the church it was decided to tear down the building. From 1811 to 1823 the Kleinflecken was turned into a large construction site. The new Protestant church was designed by Copenhagen head architect Christian Frederik Hansen and built from 1829 to 1834 in severe neoclassical style. Today Vicelin church is the most important building in Neumünster and serves as the city's landmark.

*Opening times: Tue - Fri 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
[www.vicelin-kirche-nms.de](http://www.vicelin-kirche-nms.de)*



## 16 Haus der Begegnung (building)



This is the last still existing building of the so called "privileged houses" which were located in this street such as the school, the rectory and the house of the organist. It was built in 1791 as house no. 10 in the street behind the church called "Hinter der Kirche" and served as the provost's seat in Neumünster

from 1879 until 1933. Renovated in 1980 a building extension was added. Today it serves as meeting place for the congregation of the Vicelin church. Several halls and a garden can be used for events of all kind.

## 17 Simonssche Villa and park



The Simon family's park that surrounded the villa was already finished when in 1900 the "Simonssche Villa" was built on a little hill at Gartenallee 14, designed by architect Schlichting. In the factory buildings right behind the villa cloth was produced for centuries, making the name Simons

famous in Europe. After the decline of Neumünster's textile industry the factory and office buildings were demolished and town apartments were built on their site. The Simonssche Villa was restored and today houses a practice for oral and maxillofacial surgery.

## 18 Paper mill



The paper mill for coloured paper Gottfried Möller Söhne started operating in 1849 and for over 70 years paper was coloured here with aniline dye. Special paper was produced by adding fibres and wood flour or by spraying a dye solution on the still moist paper. The

mill was closed in the late 1920s and the building was used as storage space and rented out. After World War II it was called "Wahlesche Fabrik" named after the Wahle GmbH, a supplier for apiculture. The attempt to establish a textile museum in the location during the 1980s failed and publisher Uli Wachholtz, descendant of the Möller family, repurchased the property. In close cooperation with the state office for historical monuments and Braunschweig-based architect Lorenz Langer a new land utilisation and design plan was developed. Today the factory buildings house a modern service centre and a bistro.

## 19 Hinselmannhaus (building)



This typical Neumünster half-timbered house characterised the cityscape at Großflecken 58 until 1982. In the course of the new development of the Volksbank it was demolished and rebuilt at Waschpohl. Hinselmannhaus was first mentioned in records in 1788 and in 1896 an extension was added. At that

time owner Detlev Hinrich Hinselmann operated a distillery and a brewery as well as a pub and an inn. In 1901 the house was redesigned according to plans by architect Hans Roß. Art nouveau elements at the facade and inner elements such as stairs, doors, ceilings and fireplaces were preserved during reconstruction at Waschpohl.

## 20 Café Oldehus



This house is a typical example for the half-timbered architectural style of Neumünster and was built at Großflecken 66 in 1781. It was finished just a year after the major fire in 1780 which destroyed almost all buildings along the city's main square Großflecken. Beams and stones from this catastrophe

were used as building material for the house and in 1851 a barn was added to the main building, later on followed by a patio, a place to unhitch the horses and an inn. In 1900 a bakery moved into the building and when master baker Heinrich Oldehus did not return from WW I his widow opened up a cafe. The house still belongs to the Oldehus family today.



This house was built in late baroque style between 1744 and 1746 for bailiff Caspar von Saldern and possibly even designed by him. Carpenter Runge was responsible for the construction works. Von Saldern had a house built that was used as office and residential building with a farmyard facing the street Haart and a spaciouly laid out arboretum facing Altonaer Straße. The interior design of the „Beletage“ (ceremonial room) was elegant and classy. Since 2004 the friends' association of the Caspar-von-Saldern-Haus has supported Neumünster city council by restoring the building and outdoor facilities with the historical linden tree alley. Unfortunately Caspar von Saldern himself had to leave Neumünster in 1749 as he acted on his own authority by founding a marksmen's guild. Grand Duke Peter, who later became Peter III, Tsar of Russia considered that a striking abuse of office and suspended von Saldern. But several years later his political rise set in and he thrived at the Russian court. It was von Saldern who, as Holstein-Russian diplomat, negotiated the exchange agreement of 1773 between Danish foreign minister Johann Hartwig Ernst Graf von Bernsdorff and Russian Tsarina Katharina II, securing peace in the Baltic region for centuries. After the office was closed in 1867 the building was used as district court, savings bank, official residence of the mayor and museum of local history.



During World War II it served as the county headquarter of the NSDAP. Under British occupation in 1945 the house was confiscated, turned into an officers' mess and in 1947 was extended by two wings. After the British left Neumünster the house was turned into a youth hostel, restored in 1983 and used as adult education centre. In 2006 the listed Caspar-von-Saldern-Haus was reopened after its restoration and in 2007 the Neumünster music school moved in. Concerts, readings and exhibitions are regularly offered in the building and it can be rented for all kinds of celebrations. The festive „Gartensaal“ also serves as civil registry office during wedding ceremonies.

[www.caspar-von-saldern.de](http://www.caspar-von-saldern.de)



This small alley is located right behind Neumünster's oldest street and was redesigned in 1989 as a result of a cooperation between city planners and architects with funds from the German urban development promotion programme. The renovated house at no. 6 was designed in art-nouveau style by architect Schlichting for house painter Reimers. The architectural ensemble culminates in house no. 16 which was built in 1998 in deconstructivist style, planned by architect Blaue from Flensburg.

This savings bank was established in 1903 by 44 citizens as "Gewerbank eGmbH" and changed its location several times. In 1985 the bank's new building was completed integrating the historical facade of the "Kaiserhof". That building had been erected in 1889 and served as town theatre and later also as hotel. In 1898 the association of savings banks "Sparkassen- und Giroverband Schleswig-Holstein" was established here and in 1999 the two banks Volksbank and Segeberger Volksbank merged. In 2011 the neighbouring house at Großflecken 62/64 was demolished and a new building was constructed but its facade was preserved and extensively restored. The former brick duplex was built with glazed bricks and friezes in 1894.



The town hall was inaugurated in October 2, 1900. At the end of the 19th century the industrial town of Neumünster experienced its economic heyday and this new construction designed by architect Magnus Schlichting should crown its success. He deliberately chose a neo-gothic style with glass paintings and special mosaics to distract from the serious character of the building. The rather peripheral location of the town hall at the southern tip of the Großflecken had always caused the city planners a headache. Reconstructions or extensions were difficult but had to be considered because after only two years the space was no longer sufficient so at and around the town hall other buildings were added. In 1928 the Stadthaus at Brachenfelder Straße 1-3 was built designed by city planner Carl Lembke and in the



1930s architect Fritz Hain Sr. designed an extension to the town hall for the registration office. In 1983 a preservation order was put on the old town hall and one year later the new town hall designed by architects Dissing + Weitling from Copenhagen was inaugurated. When the old town hall was built in 1900 a cosy restaurant in the basement, the so called "Ratskeller" was established and famous names such as Kempinski were tenants there. But owners changed often due to the peripheral location of the town hall and because the competitors along the Großflecken had more attractive offers.



The street name Fürstthof was mentioned in 1709 for the first time. In old files of the city council it also appeared as fürstlicher Hof, Fürsten Hof or Försten Hof. The street is named after blacksmith Joachim Först who lived there right at the corner to Großflecken. Almost as old is the house at Fürstthof

9 which is one of the oldest preserved houses in Neumünster and was restored in 1983. Before 1880 the house with a half-hipped roof at Fürstthof 29 was built in typical Neumünster style. The house at number 23 was built in 1883 and used as "Theater am Fürstthof" during the 1960s. Claus Peymann worked in the theatre as stage director and actors like Helmuth Lohner and Alexandra trod the boards here. Today the building is home to Café Olé where cultural events are once again presented. Since 1987 the building at number 8 is home to the artist house "Stadttöpferei" where ceramic artists from all over the world can live and work for one month as artists in residence. During their residency the studio space is open for visitors who can also see the ceramic collection with artwork from well-known artists.



At Brachenfelder Straße the cornerstone was laid for the future Holsten brewery on March 11, 1874. Owner of the building was the limited partnership D.H. Hinselmann & Co. who operated a small brewery at Großflecken. The first construction phase in 1864 included a cold storage house where ice blocks from the Schwale were stored during winter to keep the beer kegs cool until late summer. During the operation of the brewery the building was constantly expanded or reconstructed. Already in 1898 the first beer was bottled in this brewery at Brachenfelder Straße. In 1922 the building was taken over by the Holsten

brewery where in 1960 two filling systems filled 7.000 bottles of beer per hour. In 1986 the brewery was able to fill 90.000 cans of beer per hour. On November 28, 1986 it was closed and the Holsten brewery left Neumünster. In 1993 the buildings were renovated and restored by a private investor after plans by architect Willem Hain and are since rented out to service enterprises.

At Brachenfelder Straße the foundation Herbert-Gerisch-Stiftung was able to connect historical architecture and contemporary art in a spacious park along the Schwale river. The Villa Wachholtz was originally built in 1903 for paper manufacturer Paul Ströhmer. From its beginnings it was a house of art. Emil Nolde came by for visits as the landlord had been a passionate collector of contemporary art. When Ströhmer sold the house to his cousin in 1925 Karl Wachholtz decided to have an English landscape garden built which was then designed by landscape gardener Harry Maasz. The ensemble was sensitively reconstructed by the Gerisch Foundation. The couple Brigitte and



Herbert Gerisch created a sculpture park that invites its visitors to experience nature and art. The annually growing sculpture collection and constantly new and spectacular works by internationally renowned artists move into "Arkadia".

This outdoor collection is complemented by temporary exhibitions in the Villa Wachholtz and the Gerisch Gallery. 400 square metres can be used to present sculptures, paintings, graphics and video art. Culture enthusiasts can enjoy Villa Wachholtz during talks, discussions, readings and concerts. The wedding room offers a classy setting for civil wedding ceremonies and the Harry Maasz Café invites visitors to linger and enjoy coffee and cake which can be served on the outside terrace during summer.

*Opening times: Wed - Sun 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; April - September until 7 p.m. during weekends*

*Guided tours by prior arrangement: +49 (0)4321 - 555120 or -29232  
www.gerisch-stiftung.de*

Coming from Brachenfelder Straße you will pass through the remodelled Schwale-Park as well as Selckschen Park before reaching Marienstraße. In this area one park follows the next along the Schwale river. The Marienstraße was a very elegant residential area



and was developed in the early 20th century. The street Marienstraße was named in 1897 after Marie Hinselmann, née Harms, the wife of brewery owner Detlev Hinselmann. Her dowry of 100.000 gold marks paid for the development and costly pavement of the street. As owner of these meadows in the eastern part of the city Detlev Hinselmann himself decided who could build here. For Hinselmann himself the architect Hans Roß built a small villa in country house style at no. 29. He is also responsible for the architectural ensemble between Brachenfelder Straße and Fritz-Reuter-Straße, no. 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and for the duplex at no. 43. Today all houses are listed buildings.



This impressive building along the street Parkstraße was inaugurated on April 20, 1912 and since then underwent several extensions and alterations. For this school chief city planner Paul Reese opted for a hall-style building resembling another school at the corner of the streets Färberstraße/Luisen-

straße. Because of the soggy soil in the Schwale valley the city council conducted test drillings to see if the soil of these meadows called "Hinselmannschen Wiesen" were suitable as building site. The previous attempt of building the church "Anscharkeirche" on that site had failed. The Klaus-Groth-Schule was founded as a girls' school and was therefore also known as "nunnery". Since 1973 it serves as secondary school for boys and girls.

## 30 Theodor-Litt-School

This school is located on the site of the former Christiansfabrik. Cloth-maker J.O. Meßtorff had the factory built and it bears the name of King Christian VIII. It burned down in 1889 and was rebuilt only to be demolished again in 1930. With funds from the McCloy-Foundation - an American reconstruction aid - the School of Textile and Engineering was built. This is the first major post-war modernism building designed by Hamburg-based architects professor G. Nissen and C.-F. Fischer. Today it houses the Theodor-Litt-Schule, the Berufsbildungszentrum of the



city of Neumünster which serves as the regional career development centre. The sculpture "Brüllsche Plastik" from 1966 can be found in front of the school with its metal boards shaped like sails blowing in the wind. Sculptor Will Brüll (1922) originally created it for the clothing factory "Maris" in Justus-von-Liebig-Straße but after the factory was closed the steel sculpture found a new home at Parkstraße. The light- and air catcher pleasantly complements the building's architecture.

## 31 Die "alte" Ortskrankenkasse (building)



After the first designs were drawn up by architect Hans Roß the actual planning of the insurance building was done by architect Fritz Hain Sr. (1891 - 1951). The architecture of the two-storey red brick building with a skylight in the main hall was influenced by the Bauhaus-style. The building is decorated with a relief above the entrance by sculptor

Isenbeck from Berlin and a glas mosaic on the inside of the door to the main hall. During the Second World War the insurance building was severely destroyed by bombs. During reconstruction the two-storey main hall was closed on the first floor and with the last renovation in 1999 the roof was partially rebuilt in its original form. The inventory of Neumünster's oldest pharmacy "Einhorn-Apotheke" can be seen in the former main hall today as the old pharmacy building at the Großflecken was demolished. The mahogany worktable in Biedermeier style is a relic from the past.

## 32 Anschar church

In 1913 the second Protestant church in Neumünster was inaugurated at Christianstraße. The style of architect Hans Roß is visible everywhere, from the integration into the surrounding buildings to small details. After the rather plain architecture of the neo-classical Vicelin Church the Neumünster citizens hoped for a Lord's house radiating more warmth and decided to lavishly decorate the church. Hit by bombs in November 1944 Anscharkirche burned down and was rebuilt by architect Fritz Hain Sr. in a much simpler design. It was consecrated in 1951 on February 25. The former pointy copper roof could not be redone in those days. Some other elements such as the arched roof above the entrance were simplified and the elliptic church vault had to be parabolically raised. The altar was redesigned in 1994 by architect Friedrich W. Hain. The outer artistic decoration is still visible. Art works inside the church include the Altar of Revelation by Otto Flath from Segeberg (1951), the seven pictures painted on pavement light glass "Birth of Jesus Christ - Sermon on the Mount - Last Supper - Cross and



Resurrection - Baptism - Healing Christ – Pentecost“ by Illo von Rauch-Wittlich, Berlin (1994) and the bronze sculpture “Ansgar the Apostle of the North“ by Manfred Sihle-Wissel, Brammer (1997).

[www.anscharkirche.de](http://www.anscharkirche.de)

### 33 Sparkasse Südholstein (building)

With the inauguration of the savings bank’s headquarters on September 25, 1996 a long period of reconstruction, extension and new construction had come to a close. The town planning design by architects Wuttke + Kekeritz and Hain + Sye was accented by the corner building constructed of dark bricks. The spacious Kuhberg between the square Gänsemarkt and the station square was to be disturbed as little as possible by the junction with the street Kieler Straße. The savings bank “Südholstein“ is Neumünster’s bank with the longest tradition.

12 brave citizens established the savings bank “Spar- and Leihkasse“ in 1832. In the beginning pharmacist Jahn from Einhorn-Apotheke collected the savings deposits every Saturday in his pharmacy at Großflecken 40. Later the bank moved into another house at Großflecken 25. The profits that were gained went into charitable causes. In 1870 Neumünster received its own charter and in 1883 the savings bank was taken over by the city.



### 34 Kuhberg (street)

The street “Kuhberg“ is one of Neumünster’s oldest. In the mornings the cattle used to be gathered here and driven to the so-called “Fleckensmoor“, a bog which is located in today’s city park. There was also a shepherd’s cottage not far from the street at Gänsemarkt. The borough had bought the vast bog reaching from the Stover up to

Wasbeker Straße from the government in 1762 for 1900 Taler. By 1900 the farmers were still driving back their cattle from the Fleckensmoor every evening.



The Kuhberg turned into the main shopping district after the railway station was built and people started visiting Neumünster for shopping or business. Author Hans Fallada who lived here in 1928/29 described the street as Neumünster’s “Broadway“ as the most beautiful and well arranged specialty stores presented their goods in the inviting window displays. Traffic along the Kuhberg has been rerouted several times since then.

### 35 Kieler Brücke



Because of its central location Neumünster has always been an important traffic junction in Holstein. Carriages, stagecoaches and cattle all had to cross the main square Großflecken. A natural barrier for this traffic was the ford at the bridge Kieler Brücke. In the early days a wooden bridge crossed the Schwale river here. From 1830 on the Danish King Frederick VI had an artificial road built from Altona to Kiel via Neumünster. In this context the road across the Großflecken was sealed and the wooden bridge was substituted by a stone bridge. During the last 50 years and the constantly growing number of cars the bridge was expanded several times. When the Großflecken was re-designed in 1989 an arch from the old bridge was discovered and can still be seen next to an ice cream parlour located across the street from the pond. Looking closely through the shaft you can still see a crown with the initials of King Frederick VI and the year 1834 carved in stone. In that year the first sealed road in Holstein was finished.

## 36 Klosterinsel (Monastery island)

The story of the Klosterinsel starts in 1498 when Duke Friedrich established a nunnery in a still visible bend of the Schwale river. With respect to the impoverished nuns the nunnery was shut down after the reformation in 1566 but the following buildings remained on site: the church, the long house, the small house, the administration, the workshop, a guesthouse, the kitchen with basement and a gatehouse. Duke Adolph converted the property into a ducal and later into a royal house.



From 1570 to 1647 different members of the family resided here. General sergeant Hans Rantzau lived in the house from 1647 to 1652 and after that it was the bailiff's office where prisoners were accommodated.

In 1729 it was turned into a jail and madhouse where prisoners were spinning wool on spinning wheels, establishing the first "Privileged Wool Mill" here in 1760.

In 1819 the jail was relocated to Glückstadt and parts of the old nunnery were demolished.

In 1824 clothworkers Renck & Meßtorff used the first steam engine and three years later in 1827 the main part of the building burned down.

In 1896 the Renck family sold the property to the chrome tannery Brüning. After its bankruptcy the two companies Weinknecht (skins and rags) and Wehrenpfennig & Brüngen (hosiery) shared the site.

In 1915 the city council acquired the Klosterinsel and in 1933 the last buildings were demolished.

In 1938 the "Museum for Germanic traditional costumes" was established but destroyed again by bombs in April 1945.

In 1960 the remodelled Klosterinsel was inaugurated by Mayor Walter Lehmkuhl.

## 37 Villa Köster



In 1902 draper Friedrich Hanssen had a neo-baroque villa built on his park-like estate designed by Hamburg based architects Lundt & Kallmorgen (who were also responsible for the Thalia-Theater Hamburg). Still today this distinctive building is by far the most luxuriant villa in the city. For Neumünster craftsmen a building like this was difficult to erect but it was done by the Pries company which was owned by young architect Hans Roß who also managed the construction work. Later leather factory owner Emil Köster purchased the villa and today it is privately owned.

## 38 Rencks Park

This park was donated to the City of Neumünster on the occasion of the city's foundation in 1870 by the clothworker and factory owner Hans Lorenz Renck. As clothworkers the Renck family had established considerable assets since the 17th century and had donated some of them to the needy people in the city. After the last heir of the family decided to not use the park anymore the park was opened to the public and the wrought-iron gates were unlocked on March 12, 1921. The working population was supposed to find peace and quiet from the bustling city on the well-kept paths of this wonderful park.







Coming from the main square "Großflecken" the gateway to the street "Holstenstraße" was flanked by two impressive houses with Wilhelminian-style corner towers since 1891. They were designed by architect Magnus Schlichting to underline the self-confidence of the prospering city at the turn of the century. After WW I people were horrified by "onion domes" and therefore the south tower was remodelled by architect Fritz Hain, Sr. in 1936 for the textile store owner Otto Barg. The tower's cupola was

turned into a neo-classical one, the stucco removed and a grey-green finishing coat was added to the facade as sgraffito. Up to its junction with Peterstraße Holstenstraße was a showpiece street for architect Magnus Schlichting.



The "Kaiserliche Postamt" (imperial post office) on the main square Großflecken was inaugurated on October 1, 1886. Twelve post office and telegraph clerks as well as 28 junior clerks were present for its inauguration in full dress uniform. The prestigious North German brick gothic building was one of 2.000 post office buildings built in Germany during the mandate of post-master general von Stephan. A rectangular platform on the roof of the post office served as

starting point for the telephone network which in 1888 only had 25 users in Neumünster. In 1986 the city's post office moved into a new building at Friedrichstraße and on October 15, 1989 the "Alte Post Passage" with specialty stores and restaurants was opened in the historic post office.

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