



Alte Feuerwache

Structure/Modern architecture



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As Cologne grew beyond its medieval boundaries in the late 19th century, the Agnesviertel district was created in the north. One of the first buildings to be erected there was a new main fire station to meet the standards of the growing city. Accordingly, the area takes up an area that would otherwise be reserved for an entire block of houses and is therefore a large building complex. How else could the fire brigade's heavy equipment have been housed and manoeuvred or drills carried out for emergencies without the corresponding halls and inner courtyard?

Even today, the different areas of the station are still clearly identifiable. The four-storey riser tower stands out most obviously. Other parts, such as the stable gates, can be recognised by architectural elements, in this case the round windows.

In addition to its function, the fire station ensemble is also a representative building. Red and yellow brick and decorative iron anchors characterise the façade. The Wilhelminian-style building is consequently a listed building.

Today, the "Tatü-Tata" of the fire brigade no longer resounds through the interior of the station. After the fire brigade moved to a new, modern site in the 1970s, the Bürgerzentrum Alte Feuerwehr e.V. association took over the site. This association was founded and campaigned for the preservation and conversion of the station into a community centre. Since then, the Alte Feuerwache has been a place by the citizens for the citizens, with a wide range of opportunities for participation and offers to get involved. A place where people can meet and exchange ideas. The inner courtyard and the adjoining café/restaurant in particular, as well as the regular flea markets, give visitors a nice impression of this charmingly unpretentious place.

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Last changed on 02.07.2024, 14:00



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