

HAUS AM PEGEL

Former customs office and warehouses

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The Erft channel (today: harbour basin 1), which was built between 1835 and 1838 and declared a '**customs and free port**' in 1843.

The first building built in 1866 on the site of today's Haus am Pegel [house at the water level] was the municipal **slaughterhouse**. The municipal cattle market has been taking place since 1895 on the premises in front of the slaughterhouse. In the course of further expansion of the harbour and the extension of the circular and harbour railway, the slaughterhouse was moved to Blücherstraße in 1905.

The old building at harbour basin 1, which was completed in 1908, was converted into a branch and dispatch office of the customs authorities.

In 1936, the **customs office** received a two-storey extension, which also provided additional storage space for the companies located in the port. After the Second World War, the **warehouse** was augmented, and in 1954 it was extended by a five-storey annex at the end of the hall, which until 1973 housed the Neuss Customs Office. Until 1999, the warehouses were still used by various companies, such as the 'Neska – Niederrheinisches Schifffahrtskontor AG' [Lower Rhine shipping office], which for a long time served as nicknames for the halls.

In 2005, Neusser Bauverein AG [Building Association of Neuss] began the reconstruction and partial new construction of the '**Neska Halls**' to the office building '**Haus am Pegel**'. A three-part ensemble consisting of the elongated former warehouses, which are framed on one side by the new five-storey head building and on the other by an extension with cantilevered penthouse floor. This concept is designed to take account of the history of the building as well as the architecture specific to the harbour. This impression is complemented by two nighttime-illuminated harbour cranes and the restored house on the water level from the year 1936. Since 2006, the Haus am Pegel is also the seat of the company 'Neusser Bauverein AG'.

(Sources and texts: Neuss municipal archives)

translation: ACT Fachübersetzungen GmbH



-	1843	Customs and free port Neuss on the Erft channel
-	1866	Opening of the municipal slaughterhouse
-	1895	First cattle market at the harbour
-	1905	Conversion of the slaughterhouse to the customs office
-	1936	Addition of large warehouses
-	1954	Addition of the main building for the customs office
-	1973	Relocation of the customs office
-	2005	Remodelling and new construction of the 'Neska Hall' warehouse to the office building 'Haus am Pegel'.



Harbour basin 1 with oil mill C. Thywissen and the storage halls used by Rhenus, around 1960



The customs office, built in 1953, attached to the warehouses, circa 1955



Harbour basin 1 shortly after the expansion, on the right the 'Royal customs clearance', around 1908



Low tide in harbour basin 1 in front of the 'Neska' warehouse; in the background the water level gauge and the Hessentor bridge, around 1961



The municipal stockyard behind the customs office at Hesser, around 1910



Warehouse at harbour basin 1 with the annex from 1936

Graphic design: **Cornelius Uerlichs**

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