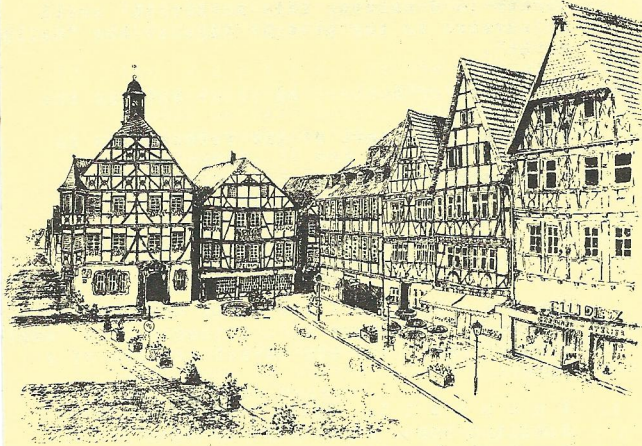


Grünberg in Hessen



A historical walk

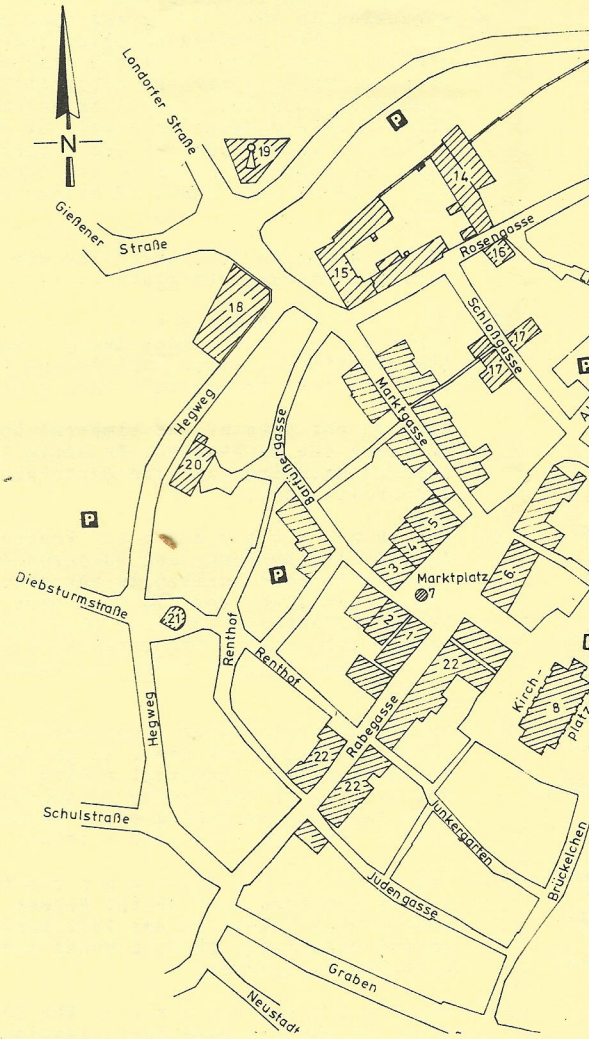
History

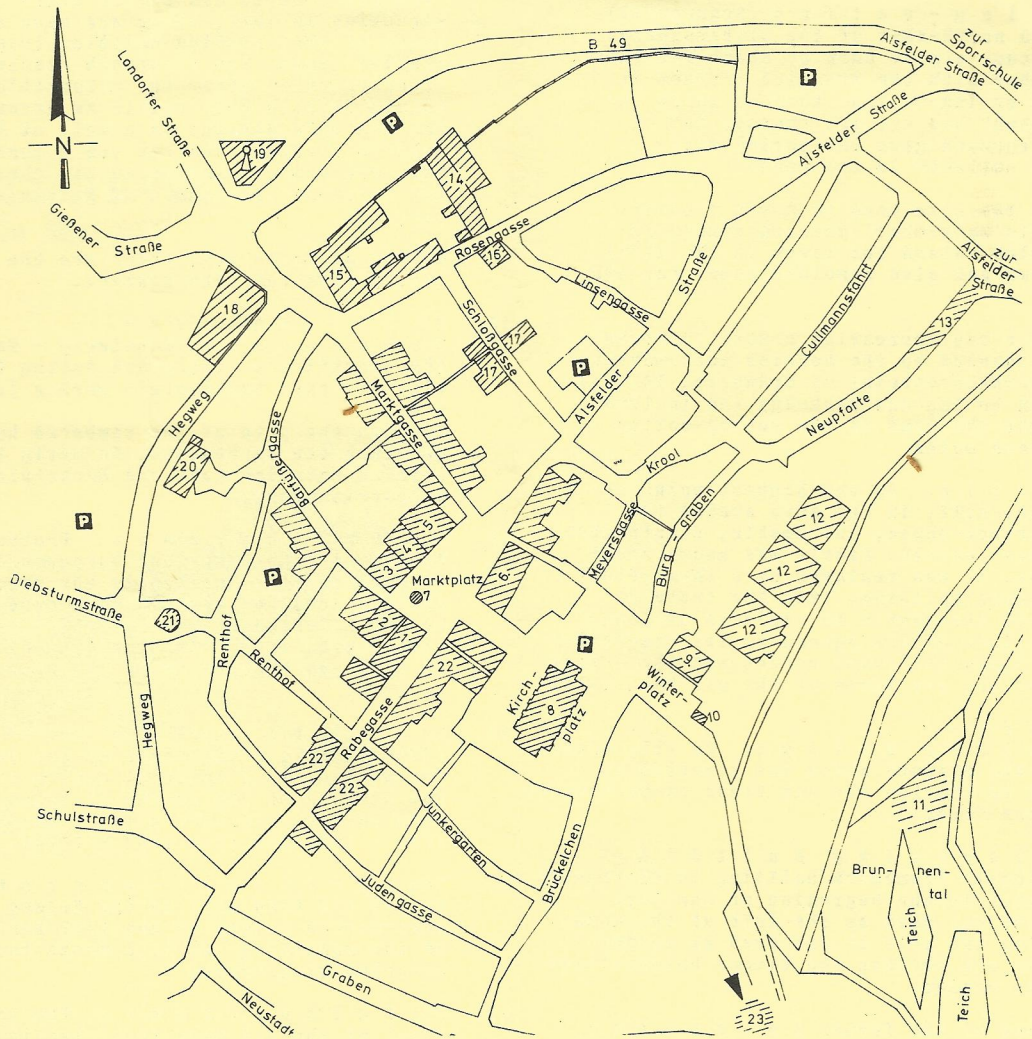
- 1186 Count Ludwig the 3rd of Thüringen constructed a castle to protect his border and the trade route across the "kurze Hessen". This castle was built on top of the green hill.
- 1222 First documented record as a town with a seal. (all seals are shown in a show-case of the townhall)
- 1272 Count Henry the 1st gave the town a charter of independence, which freed the citizens from the domination of the church. From this time on only the law of the Franconians was legal.
- 1481 The German Emperor Friedrich the 3rd of Habsburg presented the right to hold an annual market in Grünberg. This market is still celebrated to the present days as the "Gallusmarkt".
- 1526 The Synod of Homburg by Count Philipp the Generous. This is the start of the reformation in Hessen. Demonstration.

Historical walk

The Marketplace of Grünberg is formed in the shape of a triangle. The "small market" runs into the market in form of a funnel.

1. **Townhall.** Built 1586/87 as the dwelling-house of bailiff Rüdiger von Hersfeld. Bought by the town of Grünberg as the townhall in 1593 for 2000 thalers. In 1822 the renaissance work was plastered. The corner bays, stretching over two floors, were moved and the rich ornaments covered over. In 1922 this was restored. In 1966 the half-timbering was also renovated. 1980 saw the restoration of the half-timbering and ornamentation along with the reconstruction of the corner bays.
2. **Tavern.** Built in 1720 as a half-timbered construction. First residence of the count's sheriff.
3. **Guildhall.** Originally two gable-houses which were joined under a curb-roof in 1806. The second house is the oldest. It was built by Johannes Benedictus Stammer in 1665 and was the first common apothecary of Grünberg. The neoclassical building was inaugurated as guildhall in 1979.
4. **The old post.** A splendid half-timbered baroque building from 1668. Formerly served as the post dispatch.
5. The gothic framework is shown by the neighbouring houses. The cornerhouse of the market was built in 1529.
6. The two half-timbered buildings on the east side of the marketplace were built in the 18th century. Protruding at their border, there was a stonewell from the 15th century till 1890.
7. During the reconstruction of the marketplace in 1980 a well shaft was discovered, which probably is originated from the first settlement. It is 120 feet deep and the well walls are made out of granite stones, which end at a depth of 62 feet. As a result of the coinage found in the shaft we must assume it was used until the beginning of the 19th century.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.





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8. Church. In place of the presentday church which was built from 1846 to 1852 and renovated in 1964 to 1967 there stood until 1816 a gothic church dating from the middle of the 13th century.
9. Brewery. The brewery is a half-timbered house from the 18th century. It was converted to a dwelling-house in 1921. The protruding well shows a lion that holds the coat-of-arms of Grünberg.
10. The well-cottage close to the former well-gate is firstly mentioned about 1560. It is said that there was a wood cottage previously in this position. Already in 1419 the water out of the spring-valley was collected in this cottage. From here it was fed by a piping-system to the individual wells of the town.

11. The spring-valley (Brunnental) is located north-east of the wintersquare. The landscape slopes down by about 210 feet and together with the opposite terrace it forms the spring-valley, through which the "Äschershach" has cut its course. Out of many underground gaps the spring water flows and collects in two ponds.

The water was also used to power a water-wheel. This waterwheel powered a pumping-system which raised the water to the level of the town and also provided power for two mills.

The present day recreation centre "Brunnental" was founded by the tourist information centre (Verkehrsverein) of Grünberg. In 1901 they began to lay out pathways and in 1908 they bought the land in the spring-valley and prepared walks.

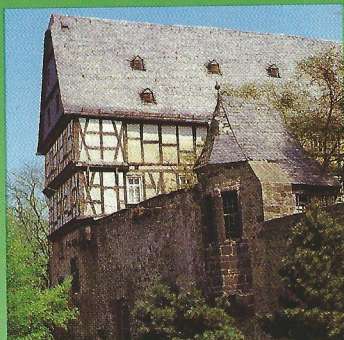
12. The castle. On the highest point of the granite-hill, in the area around the middle terrace-house, the castle, constructed in 1186 was located. Little was known about the layout. It was replaced by a three-floor half-timbered building. 1810 the State of Hessen sold the castle to citizens of Grünberg. The last owners agreed to its demolition in 1969. Along the route underneath the former castle one can see parts of the old town wall.
13. Newport - Alsfelder Bridge. On this route we reach the Newport which was erected in 1580 just to shorten the old trade route through the "kurzen Hessen".
14. The "University Building" is the highest framework building in Oberhessen. It was built in the beginning of the 16th century and was used as the loft of the monastery. 1542 and 1613 it was used as accommodation for the Marburg and Giessen Universities during the plague.
15. In the yard of the former Antonian monastery. The Antonians, a medical order from France were founded in 1095. They set themselves the task to cure people who suffered from a widespread disease called "Antoniusfire". The first Antonians in Grünberg appeared in 1222, when in Mecklenburg an affiliated monastery was founded. They wore a black cowl with a blue T, that is still a part of the seal of the Giessen University and the coat-of-arms of the county of Giessen to the present day.

The building in the south-west was formerly the church, recognizable by the buttress and sacramental gothic windows. In the north-west on top of the town wall the monks house is located. At the inner wall there is a grave stone of Nikolaus of Lindenstruth (1350). In the building opposite the

"Schloss", as it was called since its reconstruction in 1577, there are many architectural rests of the existing building from the monasterial times. The framework results from reconstruction after the reformation. Count Ludwig IV used this castle as accommodation for his wife Hedwig. On a wall of the inner yard in a recess one can see a monks figure with the Antonian cross on his chest holding two coats-of-arms those of Hessen and Mecklenburg.

16. On the opposite side there are the stable s, dating from the 15th century.
17. Schlossgasse - Marktgasse (Castleway - Marketstreet) The magnificent timberwork dating from 1634 is with its rare ornamentale work a jewel of the town. Through the gate of the timbered house opposite we reach the Marktgasse. Formerly the link between Antonian gate and Marketplace, today a pedestrian zone.
18. The Hüfentränke. Protruding the Gühelrod-, Marburg- and Burggemünd-gate the farm yards were located in the north-west. These yards and the old town were connected by the Hüfentränke-bridge, which led over a moat filled with water. The watering-place was filled in 1952 and brought up to its present condition in 1970.
19. On a small hill there stood the bargain (Dingstühle), a law court in the open. Today there is a memorial dating from 1873 to the victims of the county of Grünberg in the war from 1870/71. (Grünberg was a county town from 1832 - 1846 and from 1852 - 1874).
20. The Barfüsser-monastery. On the old town wall at the Hegweg opposite the supermarket raises on the left hand side the ruin of the monastery. It is a monks house with an attached stairtower.
21. The Thievestower. The last remaining tower of the old town fortification. It is 96 feet high and round inside, but outside only as far as the townhall. The part outside the townhall has straight walls, which unite at an angle. Earlier it could be reached only from a rampart. The present door was broken afterwards.
22. In the Rahegasse we find more splendid half-timbered houses from various ages.
23. Apart from this walk there's also the Augustin nunnery and the Hospital church in the area of the old cemetery.

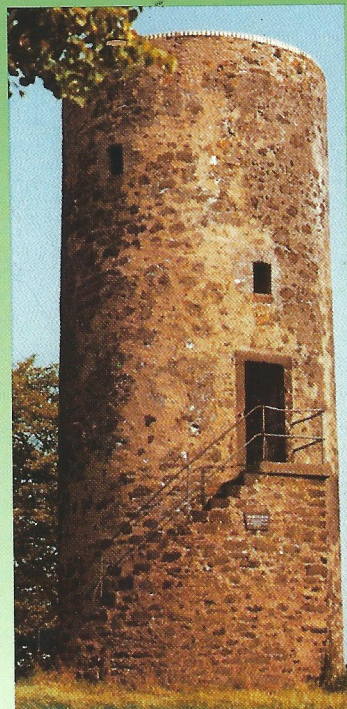
Im Jahre 1222 wird Grünberg als Stadt erstmalig urkundlich erwähnt. Das Schicksal meinte es gut mit Grünberg. Die gute Luft und der Wasserreichtum ließen Stadt und Land, auch nach Bränden, Zerstörung und Schicksalsschlägen, überleben. Seuchen waren unbekannt. Das Bürgertum entwickelte wirtschaftliche Energien. Die Basis für das Heute. Das Renaissance-Rathaus, das Schloß und die stattlichen Fachwerkhäuser entstehen. Die Wirtschaft blüht auf. Grünberg wird zum Zentrum von Handel und Handwerk. Bis heute.



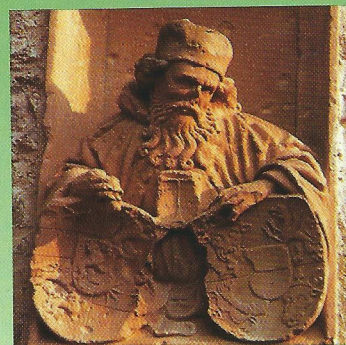
Stadtmauer und Haus Stammeler



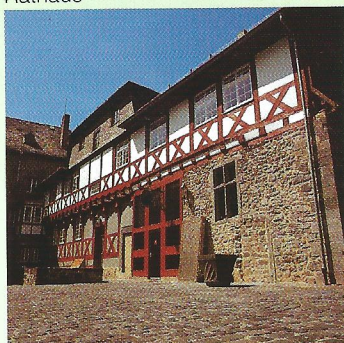
Rathaus



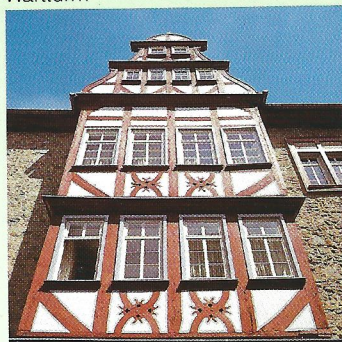
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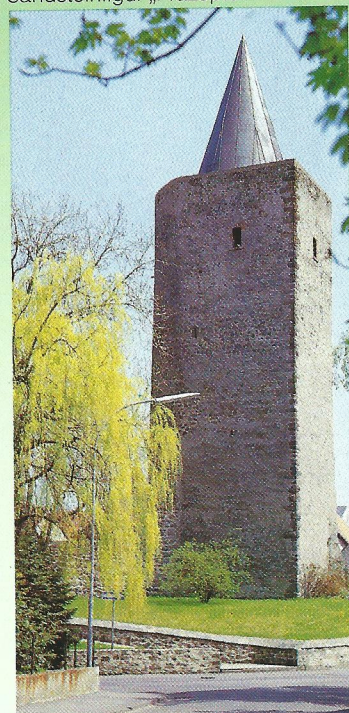
Sandsteinfigur „Präzeptor“



Innenhof des Schlosses



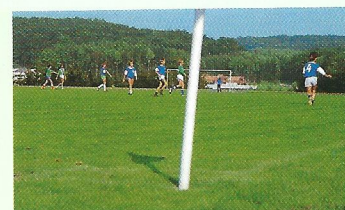
Schloß Grünberg



Diebsturm



Sporthotel



Sportschule Spielfeld



Grünberg, Stadtmitte