

Insterburg Castle in Chernyakhovsk

Founded in 1336 by the master of the Teutonic Order, Dietrich von Altenburg, Insterburg Castle is located almost in the center of modern Chernyakhovsk, near a mill pond on a stream between the Angrapp and Instruch rivers, going to one of the main city intersections.





Altes Schloss

In the form in which Insterburg Castle was originally built of stone, it did not survive, as it was destroyed and burned twice: in 1376 by the Lithuanian prince Sverdeyk and in 1457 during the war of the Prussian cities. After 1525, the manager appointed by the duke Johann Payne was very successful - in 1583 the village that had grown at the castle became the city of Insterburg. In the XIX century, the castle was occupied by a court, barracks, and a warehouse; after the First World War, it established a museum of local lore, evacuated in 1944.

The ruins of the citadel, fragments of the wall and a long forburch survived from the castle.



In the XV-XVI centuries, at the turn of the war, the castle for a long time was not attractive to civilians. The settlements around the castle were first mentioned in 1466 - by that time there were three settlements: the Freihait settlement near the southern walls of the castle, the Hackelwerk settlement with a tavern on the southern side of the Mill Pond and the Prussian village of Sparge in the upper reaches of the Angraps.





Now the castle has a museum created by the volunteers of the SanGalleri Club of History and Art Foundation, which includes artists, artists, reenactors, archaeologists and simply not indifferent people. Insterburg Castle has lived with their help - the museum is open here, exhibitions, historical and theater festivals, projects presented.

How to relate to the ruins? We can now see Insterburg Castle at a particularly interesting moment - after another raid! Indeed, regardless of whether the castle repelled the attack or not, each raid turned into great destruction. He looked about the same in the first days after the Lithuanian raid, during the war of the Prussian cities, and after 1945 ...





The End