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## Harbour Heritage and Arts/Culture as a Catalyst to Redevelopment

WATERFRONT COMMUNITIES PROJECT





## INTRODUCTION

### THE WATERFRONT COMMUNITIES PROJECT

... is a learning network of nine cities from around the North Sea, who are rediscovering their waterfronts and striving to reconnect their cities with the sea. Each city is experimenting with new ways of tackling a particular challenge of waterfront development such as integrating new and existing communities or transport links. These activities are organised around nine project themes allowing cities to consider a wider range of issues than would have been possible working alone. Examining themes as a whole, rather than individually, is generating considerable learning about the interrelated nature of the thematic issues which influence waterfront development.

The project provides a unique opportunity to test different approaches and methodologies in different national contexts but with a shared common resource – the North Sea.

Partner cities are learning from one another through regular transnational meetings, joint study visits and secondments and are working with research partners to produce:

- A framework for organising knowledge of key concepts in urban sustainable development
- A database of practice from around the world
- A toolkit with guidelines for achieving high quality waterfront regeneration.

An international conference will be held in Edinburgh in 2007 to disseminate the projects results.

The Hamburg project "Harbour Heritage and Arts/Culture as a catalyst to redevelopment", which is led by TuTech Innovation GmbH, includes the co-operation of Hamburg City Council and the HafenCity Hamburg GmbH, who provide valuable input to the project activities. This work package looks at ways to retain the harbour heritage and to complement it with the development of arts and cultural activities, which reinforce a "sense of place".

As well as gathering information on past developments and experiences relating to harbour heritage and the arts, the Hamburg team is working to increase the visibility of the waterfront area and promote harbour heritage. INTERREG funding is being used to finance the following material investments:

- Illumination of the Magellan Terraces with a specially designed steel light spiral. This piece of art is intended to create a unified, attractive and interesting public space particularly during the evening
- HafenCity Hamburg viewing tower "Viewpoint" which provides information on the project and allows visitors to view the progress of the entire construction site
- Restoration of a historic bridge in a traditional harbour site
- Restoration of historic harbour cranes

**HAMBURG**  
**OSLO**  
**GOTEBO**  
**ODENSE**  
**SCHIEDAM**  
**EDINBURGH**  
**AALBORG**  
**HULL**  
**GATESHEAD**



## HAMBURG

### HAMBURG – HARBOUR HERITAGE AND ARTS/CULTURE AS CATALYST TO DEVELOPMENT

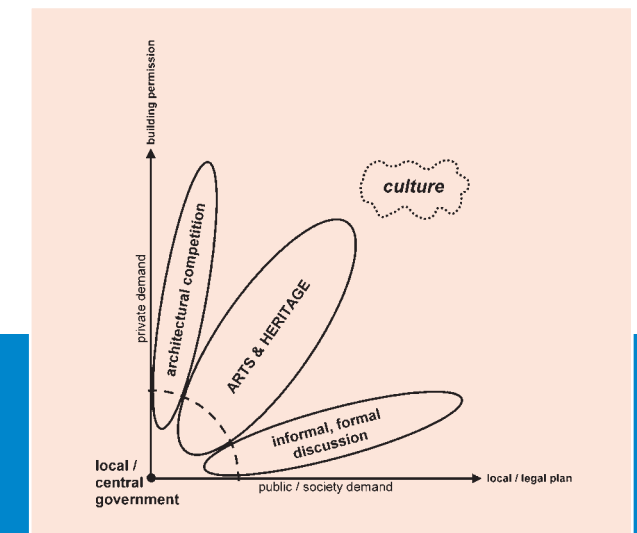
As Germany's second largest city and the host to Europe's second-largest port, Hamburg is a bustling centre of commerce and a stimulating port of call. The harbour extends over an area of 73.99 km<sup>2</sup> (64.80 km<sup>2</sup> usable), of which 43.31 km<sup>2</sup> (34.12 km<sup>2</sup>) is land mass.

A natural split of the Elbe River into northern and southern arms strengthens the character of the harbour. An ideal venue for a harbour complex oriented towards warehousing and transshipment is the result. Within that complex, the so-called "Freihafen" is a free port sector that enables duty-free commerce. Historically, the harbour has always been Hamburg's core asset, the justification for its location and importance.

Hamburg's harbour boasts impressive architecture that combines warehouses, cranes and public buildings into a unique cityscape and an unforgettable sightseeing attraction. Each period of the harbour's evolution can be seen in the way development, the moulding of the harbour basin and the arrangement of massive sheds and warehouses have all been derived and shaped by their respective harbour-related functions. One striking example is the "Speicherstadt", groups of storage facilities which once resembled a town unto itself. These are enhanced by the first historic quayside warehouses and quay walls in the vicinity of the new HafenCity ('Harbour City'). As contemporary witnesses to the emergence of an architectural style of engineering dating back to the 19th century, these older complexes represent a phase which was highly significant for Hamburg's urban development.

No single style characterises the harbour as a whole. The various buildings and monuments were designed and constructed using the best available technology from the time in question. The great esteem accorded to the harbour complex was brought to expression through the use of a variety of formal elements or creative tools: whether as a painting, a sculpture or other graphic medium.

As a new, business-oriented grouping, the quality of recent development of the HafenCity complex in relation to art and Hamburg's cultural heritage can be viewed as an examination process. That process takes an analytic look at the urban development and cultural demands being posed on former, purely port-oriented areas. In turn, such demands are being enacted and fulfilled using means which are both artistic and take the preservation of historical buildings into consideration, while retaining and interpreting the harbour's cultural heritage. Contrary to strictly regulated architectural and urban planning procedures and work flows, this process is taking place in a more freely culturally marked milieu within urban society. Its nature addresses experimental forms of expression and free initiatives (cf. diagram). The experiences made in Hamburg show that a pragmatic integration and networking of artistic and historic building-preservation activities contribute substantially to social acceptance of a change in urban development. In terms of architectural culture, the restoration and preservation of historic buildings is being enabled by "safekeeping" the old buildings into the future. These activities serve towards a sensitising awareness of both aesthetic and technical elements.



## PROMOTION OF ARTS/CULTURE

### Art Mile

The "Art Mile" between the Alster Lake and the harbour (museums, galleries, antiques market) is an example of the emphasis given to the arts in Hamburg. That also entails Germany's oldest opera house and the nation's top ballet company directed by John Neumeier. The Art Mile is already being extended into the harbour region through museums and cultural facilities which have found a home in the "Speicherstadt", e.g. the Customs Museum/Speicherstadt Museum and the Spice Museum. These are supplemented by popular facilities in which specific environments are being staged in a spectacular manner, for example the "London Dungeon", the "Model Railway" or "Dialogue in the Dark".

The Art Mile shall become more firmly established in the future through new major institutions which basically will be carried by public funding. Among these are the "Tamm Maritime Collection", which shall be inaugurated in Kaispeicher B (quay warehouse B) in 2006, and the "Elbphilharmonie", a concert hall to be erected on the grounds of Kaispeicher A (quay warehouse A). This site is set to be the prominent new venue for advanced culture in 2009, and yet another Hamburg landmark.

Further cultural investments involve a Science Centre/Aquarium and the new "HafenCity University" School of Architecture to be built on the central segment of the "Magdeburg Harbour" in HafenCity by 2010.

### Elbe Art

In addition, many examples of how arts and culture are being promoted exist within the harbour itself. One of them is the annual "Elbe Art" exhibition. An innovative feature of this scheme is that the artists' work is shown in the old Elbe tunnel rather than in a gallery. The tunnel was built beneath the river during the last century and finds only occasional use today. The exhibition draws people into the tunnel itself and allows first-hand contact with local arts, artists and culture in a heritage setting.

### Project competition on arts and culture

The topic of culture is a crucial impulse generator for development of the HafenCity. The cultural foundation "Hamburgische Kulturstiftung" and the firm "HafenCity Hamburg GmbH" formed a co-operative venture to establish and anchor artistic/cultural life there. A project-based competition entitled "Art and culture in the HafenCity" was announced in January of 2005.

A total of 146 different concepts was submitted by both well-established artists and newcomers. The jury decided that 8 temporary art projects would be installed in June.

### HafenCity – Magellan Terraces celebration

The Magellan Terraces, the first area within the HafenCity accessible to the general public, were inaugurated and opened to the people of Hamburg in a two-day celebration on the 11th and 12th of June 2005. Located at the Sandtorhafenkopf ('spit of Sandtor Harbour'), they are presented like a stage covering almost 5,000 square metres. The surface area includes three different levels variously interconnected by stairways and pubs. It represents one component of an overall concept based on free-space planning which grasps the cultural legacy of the Hamburg harbour's industrial development during the 19th century and reshapes that heritage into a modern composite of promenades, green areas, water and open plazas – into a park for the leisure-time and recreational demands of the 21st century.

One of the highlights during the opening was the "light coil", an artificial light sculpture that serves as a background for music events, art and cultural projects. Outdoor stairways allow the tidal changes in the waterway areas to be experienced intensely. Ornamental earthworks and fish motifs underscore the venue's special maritime character. Cafés, pubs and restaurants on the main plateau create a Mediterranean flair. The terraces become a lively magnet for people in Hamburg's new quarter through the varied use of such possibilities as gastronomy, festivities, concerts and professional gatherings.

The location simultaneously portrays the future port and its tradition. Historical ships, restored cranes and bridges, all a part of the area and open to the public as of 2006, will refer to Hamburg's maritime heritage.

## REUSING THE HARBOUR HERITAGE

### HafenCity – Sandtorkai Quarter

The century-old Speicherstadt is located in the free port zone between the Deichtorhallen market halls and the waterfront street Baumwall. It is the world's oldest warehouse complex still in existence. Built at the turn of the century in the red-brick style typical of northern Germany, its gabled roofs and small towers are beautifully reflected in the bordering canals. The historic warehouse district lies in the direct vicinity of the HafenCity, Hamburg's new district which has been developed a mere 800 metres from the town hall. This new waterfront quarter will increase the size of the city's centre by 40 per cent.

The Sandtorkai ('Sandtor Quay') quarter is one of the first parts of the HafenCity in which future planning has become a reality. Directly facing the harbour, the first resident owners and tenants have already moved into new flats and offices situated to the south of the historic warehouse district. Five residential and three office buildings with a total gross floor space of approximately 38,000 square metres are being built here. A special quality has been imparted to the quarter due to its position between brick-built historic warehouses and the Sandtorkai Harbour – Hamburg's oldest harbour basin. The area is being transformed into a new urban waterside environment containing newly designed arched pontoons, as well as historic ships, cranes and bridges reminiscent of the site's original use. The historically significant quay wall on the north riverbank of the Sandtor Harbour (initial quay-wall construction for modern port transshipment in the open-tide harbour around 1860) was painstakingly restored at great effort and expense in the course of a work project for youth. The cultural heritage of this innovative port architecture from the 19th century thus stands in the immediate neighbourhood of a newly erected urban

development ensemble of eight buildings on the Sandtorkai, all of which display the art of building and engineering offered by the 21st century.

### HafenCity Enterprise

Remarkable in all these approaches is that local government agencies (especially Hamburg's Ministry of City Development and the Environment), universities and NGOs are involved in addition to the active role played by the enterprise in charge of the HafenCity.

Emphasis is to be given to that company, HafenCity Hamburg GmbH (HCH). It commissions and co-ordinates both preservational and restorational activities within the HafenCity, and also functions as an important partner to the city's cultural office, to foundations and to freely operating executional agencies in what has meanwhile become a strongly expanded involvement on the part of freelance artists. The company is fully owned by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. Its objective is to develop the special assets city and port which have been accorded to it for the purposes of the HafenCity. The company's fundamental field of work is the disengagement, development and disposal of properties pursuant to that objective. That also includes informing the public and the establishment of an efficient PR concept. The promotion of cultural initiatives has meanwhile been incorporated into HCH's work. This aspect is supposed to be boosted further.

As all stakeholders are greatly interested and monitor developments closely, there is no doubt that the harbour heritage and the need to foster the local port culture are important elements of harbour development in Hamburg.



### Hamburg Maritime Foundation

The Hamburg Maritime Foundation runs a project targeted towards renovation of the warehouses so that their character and historic value are demonstrated. The 1950s warehouses were the last still preserved storage warehouses from the time of the German emperor. In their construction period 1908-1912 they were among the most modern warehouse facilities. Countless seagoing vessels from all over the world loaded and unloaded their cargo here. The warehouses were partially destroyed in the 2nd world war, and then reconstructed in the early 1950s. As the trend was more and more the conversion to rational and quick container transshipment, the warehouses lost their use and grew derelict. To create space for modern harbour operations they were finally scheduled to be torn down. Luckily this did not come to pass. Early in 2002 the impressive quayside warehouses were declared historic monuments and taken over by the Stiftung Hamburg Maritim. Piece by piece, building by building they are being reconstructed in accordance with the old plans. The dilapidated roofs alone required 40,000 square metres of renovation work.

Meanwhile, a lot of the warehouse area has been rented again. Indeed there will no longer be any goods discharged by ships, but as in the past wares from all over the world are being placed in intermediate storage here, and their aromas recall the days of old. The compound is a very popular backdrop for film productions; television, film and advertisements are filmed here regularly. The gigantic Warehouse 52 A has meanwhile developed into a successful event facility and is booked by agencies and many large companies. The proceeds that come from rent and film production are used for further renovation of the premises. The premises of the Stiftung Hamburg Maritims 1950s warehouses is Hamburgs largest non-profit monument protection project.

### Day of the open heritage

An open event titled "Heritage Day" also congregates the general public in Hamburg. One and all are invited to visit heritage objects. The historic monument day is a good opportunity to "dive into" the ancient harbour world and to delight in what the coming years still have to offer.

### Historic cranes and bridges

The project "Restoration of historic cranes" being performed in co-operation with the foundation "Youth and Work" and the Stiftung Hamburg Maritim ('Hamburg Maritime Foundation') is a prominent example of a project intended to reuse the harbour's heritage. The idea is that young, unemployed people in need of practical training become involved in restoring the cranes, and thus make an important contribution towards reusing Hamburg's available heritage. Some of the cranes shall be erected anew on the quay area on their own tracks, and in the immediate vicinity of the new "Traditional Ships Harbour" on the "Kaiserkai" ('Emperor's Quay'). They are to serve as sculptural orientation landmarks that can be seen from afar, and are witnesses to erstwhile port transshipment in the Sandtorhafen at the same time.

In job creation projects the employment agency "Jugend in Arbeit Hamburg e.V." (Youth at Work Hamburg, Registered Association) is restoring disused cargo cranes and riveted bridges for Hamburgs new HafenCity. Made redundant by the container transshipment facilities, the old style cargo cranes have already nearly disappeared from Hamburg harbour skyline. The last specimens are being collected at the 1950s warehouses, where crane by crane they are currently being descaled, preserved and repainted. After their completion they are to be installed around the Sandtorhafen harbour as technical monuments – an exciting contrast to the modern architecture. Three historic bridges that previously joined the solid banks with the many floating docks are also being restored in this job creation project, some dozens of participants strong. They are meant to make accessible the newly planned pontoons in the Sandtorhafen harbour.



### WORKSHOP AT THE AKER SHIP WHARF

The workshop was one of the main buildings at the former Aker Mechanical wharf. Aker was located in Pipervika – a stones throw from the town hall and city centre. The wharf was shut down in the early eighties and was soon developed into a dense urban area. It became one of the most attractive areas in Oslo with a mixture of expensive offices, luxurious penthouses and a great variety of shops, bars and restaurants. To preserve and reuse the very impressive brick-volume of the workshop was essential to gain support for the master plan. The workshop is a significant visual landmark in this central bay and has contributed to create an interesting dialogue between new and old along the harbour promenade. To obtain a successful business model the interior has been restructured several times, obtaining a mixture of shopping and restaurants. Today its difficult to experience the original volume inside, but the ongoing urban development in the area might secure its present use as shopping centre.

### FISH MARKET – VIPPETANGEN

The Fish Markert – Fiskehallen – is a wholesale fish market where shops, supermarkets and restaurants get their daily supply of fresh fish. The Fish Market is built in the early thirties, and shares its features with other modernist warehouses along the central harbour area; simple, geometric volumes with horizontal window ribbons. It is not listed as a heritage building, but it is historical significant because of the long tradition of fish trade in this area and the architectural value through its double height and glassed roofed interiors.



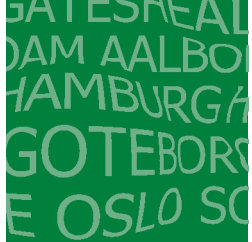
The future development of this area might employ a "bottom-up" perspective and develop public attractions and new businesses by reusing existing structures and refining existing activities. The Fish Market is, together with the grain silo, a landmark in the area and should be preserved to ad a local identity when developing the area. It could also gain a new meaning in the area by catering to individual customers and extend the activity to serving fish and fish products.

### THE OFFICE BUILDING OF KØLA-PÅLSEN – BJØRVIKA

This tiny building was the office for H.A.H. Paulsen (1832-1914), a well known businessman 100 years ago. As the largest supplier of coal in Oslo, and a very outspoken person, he was quit a character and known as Køla-Pålsen. The eastern bank of Aker River, where he ran his operations, is named after him; the Paulsen quay.

The building is today living a very anonymous life among harbour sheds and heavy traffic. Its small size will be totally out of proportions with the planned development of this central area of Bjørvika, close to the new Opera. A strategy to incorporate this historically interesting reminiscent may be to consider the building as a piece of "furniture" to be integrated into a future urban block. To attract some attention to the building in its present state, there are plans to use it in the temporary cultural activities – as a kind of gallery space or installation – being planned for this season.





## GOTEBO

The banks of the river have always been strategically important. First from the perspective of defence, later as a key part of the city's commercial and trade development. Today it is the heart of a place where work, residence, research and education are mixed with culture and recreation. Eriksberg's oldest machine hall (1920-1922) is a good example of the giant machine halls of the early 20th century. It was delivered in segments, and after completion it was 130 metres long and 9000 square metres. It has been added on to several times, and used to be joined with the building that is called Blå Hallen (the Blue Hall). Blå Hallen is approximately 25'000 square metres and was built 1961 and used for manufacturing of diesel motors for the ships. Since the remodelling of Eriksbergshallen (1990-1993) it has been used for exhibitions, concerts and conferences. Blå Hallen is nowadays a hotel that combines the heritage of its previous use with modern design.

Röda Sten is located at the mouth of the river Göta Älv. The area was used for port- and industrial purposes. Nowadays it is a popular place to stroll along the river. A building that used to house a huge industrial boiler was supposed to be demolished to give room for new office buildings. During the consultation for a new plan for the area, the Project Röda Sten was formed. They received political support for preserving the building, which now is maintained by Project Röda Sten. Their aim is to develop the surrounding area to a Nordic cultural centre for art, theatre, music and dance and to hold international exhibitions of top class.

Information at [www.rodasten.com](http://www.rodasten.com)



## ODENSE

A part of the charm of the harbour is the mix of new and old, big and small, as well as having different styles/types of buildings. The aim is to keep this mix and to continue this in the future planning of the area. In co-operation with Odense City Museum the City has gone through the buildings at the harbour of Odense to examine which buildings have preservation potentials. There are places at the harbour where buildings might not be of high value to preserve, but will be preserved as a part of a whole in that particular sub area of the harbour. Odense's converted harbour should be full of life, with public access to the water, parts of the old harbour, such as the old warehouses which should be used in a creative way, and the area should in the long term have a wide range of cultural possibilities. In connection with the harbour conversion the task is to establish the conditions and grounds for exciting and multiple cultural and recreational activities on the harbour.

## SCHIEDAM

### OLD CITY HALL SCHIEDAM

The Old City Hall of the municipality of Schiedam is located on the 'Grote Markt' and is over 350 years old. On October 22nd of 2004 the Old City Hall was reopened after a restoration that took over a year and a half. This restoration was possible with an allowance of the State Service of Monuments. Both the interior and the exterior were recovered. The paintwork, the ceilings and the decoration were taken care of. Also the frontage and the tower were restored. Nowadays there is a restaurant in part of the city hall. The other part is used for weddings.



## EDINBURGH

### HERITAGE IN WATERFRONT REGENERATION – EDINBURGH

#### The Edinburgh Waterfront

Edinburgh is located on the southern edge of the Firth of Forth, one of the UK's largest estuaries and a major contributor of this type of wildlife habitat in Europe. Its long legacy of settlement – the earliest known in Scotland – agriculture and consequent trading links through the ages, especially across the North Sea, are still evident in many of its coastal settlements and local culture. Many waterfront settlements and natural habitats have conservation designations. These range from World Heritage Site status for the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (and similar proposals exist for the famous Forth Rail Bridge), EU Special Protection Area status for birdlife, through historic settlement / important habitat conservation areas to the protection of individual buildings and natural elements. Today heritage plays a major role in the quality of life for residents and visitors.

#### Focus on Leith

Leith was one of the East of Scotland's and Edinburgh's main ports. The Character Appraisal for the Leith Conservation Area, in which part of the docks is located, describes Leith as "A microcosm of a small mercantile town with a range of civic and commercial institutions, with a diversity of important historic buildings reflecting its former independence and maritime past". This is demonstrated by Leith's large number of listed buildings, protected dock structures and street names like Baltic, Elbe, Coburg, Cadiz, Madeira Streets etc.



#### The Leith Ahead Initiative & Heritage Strategies

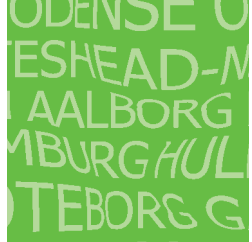
Many of the heritage strategies, used to support master planning initiatives, are developed through the Leith Ahead Initiative which is a forum for local residents, local and regional agencies and the City Council. The strategies include:

- Temporary arts and water based festivals and events
- Environmental / Access Improvements at city and regional levels including Waters of Leith and the Forth Estuary walk / cycle ways
- Leith Public Realm Framework and 'Quality of Life' Streetscape Improvements
- Leith Conservation Area Management Plan & Heritage Trail
- Central Leith Townscape Heritage Initiative including building conversion for affordable housing / community use and repairs to the Sikh temple
- Leith GEMS Project to further the sustainable life of underused historic buildings
- Leith Town Centre Manager, Town Scheme and Shop Front Improvements

#### Heritage Strategies – Meeting Waterfront Regeneration Objectives

- Heritage Strategies increase Leith's attraction as a place to live, work and visit
- Public realm frameworks and design integrate existing and new development
- New uses and sustainable futures for historic structures help to retain identity
- Retaining a maritime character and improving access keep the 'sense of place'





## AALBORG

### PRESERVATION AND REGENERATION OF INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AND INDUSTRIAL CULTURE IN AALBORG

#### Nordkraft

The City of Aalborg acquired Nordkraft in 2005 in order to convert the former power station into a centre for culture and leisure. The newer sections have been demolished, but the oldest sections, built in the 1940s and 1950s, are to be preserved.

The vision for the centre is to gather art, music, film, theatre, sport and restaurants under one roof in the attractive, historical building complex with its large spaces and raw atmosphere. The conversion of Nordkraft is taking place in close collaboration with stakeholders and potential users. The wide range of activities will attract many people, and therefore the combination of Nordkraft and the new House of Music will have great importance for the regeneration of the waterfront in the centre of Aalborg.

#### Lindholm Brygge

The area was formerly the site of DAC, a Danish cement cooperative. The private landowner and the City of Aalborg were responsible for the development of a unified plan for the area in which several buildings have been preserved. A number of the old buildings now house new businesses and educational establishments. A huge old production building, "Basilica", will be converted into apartments and offices and maybe a communal building for the area. It was not possible to preserve the old silo at the water's edge, but it has now been replaced by two new 53 m high silos containing exclusive apartments. These silos make up a unique landmark on the new mixed urban estate which features a diversity of housing projects and information technology enterprises, whilst at the same time respecting the industrial and cultural heritage of the area.



## HULL

### Oriel Chambers – Conversion to the Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation (WISE)

The harbour at Hull was developed by 14th century merchants. Medieval Hull was located west of the River Hull and on the north side of the Humber. This area is known as the Old Town where the medieval street pattern is still evident.

High Street was once the most important street in the city and is the home to Wilberforce House, which was the birthplace of the anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce (1759-1833). Wilberforce was elected as a Member of Parliament at the age of twenty-one and became the leading figure in The Abolition Act of 1833, which abolished slavery throughout the British Empire.

This project was carried out for Hull University by Hull Property's Design Practice and converted a grade 2 listed Victorian office building in the Old Town Conservation Area and Museums Quarter. The new centre is for international research into the study of slavery and emancipation and is the perfect complement to the nearby Wilberforce House slavery museum. The scheme was carried out to high conservation standards whilst invisibly integrating 21st century services. The work to the building involved the lowering of the basement floor to create useable floor space and an education centre and the creation of a lift shaft to serve all four levels.

The ground floor serves as a public conference area whilst the higher levels are for research. A new, contemporary style entrance using curved elements has been created to the near elevation, which fronts onto the Museums Quarter. The extension uses glass, render and natural stone and has a monumental wall naming key people who have aided emancipation over time.



## GATESHEAD

BALTIC, the major new international centre for contemporary art, opened on Saturday 13 July 2002. Situated on the South bank of the river Tyne in Gateshead, BALTIC lies right at the heart of the regeneration of Gateshead Quays. Housed in a 1950's grain warehouse (part of the former Baltic Flour Mills), BALTIC is a site for the production, presentation and experience of contemporary art. With no permanent collection, BALTIC is a new breed of public art space, an Art Factory. The original industrial brick building has been redesigned to accommodate 3000 square metres of arts space (five galleries), artists' studios, cinema/lecture space, media lab, a library and archive for the study of contemporary art and a retail outlet. There are also three different food and drink spaces at BALTIC, including the Rooftop Restaurant with amazing views of Tyneside. The Baltic Flour Mills opened in Gateshead on a site formerly occupied (until 1889-90) by Gateshead Iron Works, famous for constructing the High Level Bridge in Newcastle. Built for Joseph Rank Limited (who named all their UK mills after seas and oceans) the Baltic Flour Mills was a dual-purpose factory for the production of flour and animal feed. The mill complex is comprised of five buildings, including the silo (later to become BALTIC). The Baltic Flour Mills closed in 1982, after just over thirty years in operation. Due to the difficulty and the expense that its destruction would involve, the silo building is the only part of the Baltic factory to escape demolition and remains standing on the south bank of the River Tyne. In 1994 Dominic Williams (Ellis Williams Architects, London) won the Gateshead Council/Royal Institute of British Architects competition to convert former Baltic Flour Mills, Gateshead, into an international art centre. The scheme was funded by an Arts Council award of £33.4m from the National Lottery, plus a further £1.5m a year revenue funding for the first five years. The building opened to the public on 13 July 2002.



### ARTS-LED REGENERATION ON GATESHEAD QUAYS

The success of the arts-led regeneration on the Gateshead Quays is not just limited to the major developments that grace the waterfront today. A direct line can be traced back to the earlier involvement with public art.

Gateshead Council's first involvement with art in the environment in the early 1980s was so successful that by 1986 it had its own ambitious Public Art programme. This was given a tremendous boost during the Garden Festival in 1990 when more than 70 works of art were on display.

The Year of the Visual Arts in 1996 consolidated this investment in public art by exhibiting Antony Gormley's "Field for the British Isles", and promoting "Temporary Contemporary", a series of visual art events on and around the Baltic Mills, which included "Blake in Gateshead", a light sculpture by Jaume Plensa, which is now permanently housed at BALTIC. The same year Gateshead secured funding for the Angel of the North.

The success of the Angel opened the door to the cultural and economic regeneration in Gateshead and it is now acknowledged that the major developments would not have progressed without the catalyst of public arts projects.

The national reputation gained for its groundbreaking work and for delivering a project the size of the Angel lent the Council the credibility to secure funding for the scheme to convert the disused Baltic Flour Mill into BALTIC. This has, in turn, been the catalyst for the Sage Gateshead and the Millennium Bridge.

The Quay's development now also includes commercial, residential and hotel developments and is the culmination of over 20 years work by the Council, with its partners, to put art in public places.





## WATERFRONT COMMUNITIES PROJECT

The Waterfront Communities Project is co-funded by the INTERREG IIB North Sea Programme, an initiative of the European Union to encourage "harmonious and balanced" development through co-operation between European countries in spatial planning.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT:

**[WWW.WATERFRONTCOMMUNITIESPROJECT.ORG](http://WWW.WATERFRONTCOMMUNITIESPROJECT.ORG)**



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