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Co_2olBricks

Climate Change, Cultural Heritage & Energy Efficient Monuments

Tourism concepts will be combined with best practise examples of energy-saving refurbishments of historic buildings in the BSR

Hamburg, Germany

Within the framework of the **International Building Exhibition** in Hamburg (2006-2013) one focus was laid on energy efficiency and renewable energies.

The first properties to be renovated by their owners as part of the "Top Climate Plan" campaign were two apartment blocks dating from 1926, in Wilhelmsburger Strasse, Veddel. This residential area was first developed under Hamburg's famous chief architect, Fritz Schumacher.

Although the buildings, with their distinctive brick façades, have listed status, once the renovation work was complete they had almost achieved the new-build standard. The street-facing walls could not be insulated, but all other elements of the blocks were updated to a very high standard. The walls of the courtyard were plastered and fitted with 18 centimetre thick external insulation and triple-glazed Passive House windows. The roof was lined with 30 centimetre thick insulation, while the basement ceiling now has insulation wherever there was enough headroom to allow for 12 centimetre thick material. Following the preservation orders, the walls facing the streets only had their windows replaced with double glazing. A solar thermal system for hot water and heating support complements the renovated heating system.

The modernisation of these two blocks now features in discussions about "Red Hamburg" and the compatibility of conservation and climate protection when renovating brick façades. From the outside, it is almost impossible to tell that updating work has been carried out – this is probably one of the IBA's most unobtrusive jobs.

The refurbished building was a frequent part of the various guided tours through the quarter (Hamburg-Veddel) especially when focusing on climate protection issues ("Prima-Klima-Tour"). The target groups where experts as well as the general public.

More details about the project are available in the attached flyer (in German).