

KEEP OR TEAR DOWN?

Art from East Germany is still there or simply gone. It was restored or destroyed, stored or hidden, present or gone from our minds. From restoration to demolition, today's treatment of building-related art from East Germany is always a process of negotiation.

In Artern, the old school was empty at first. In 2021, the district administration office moved into the renovated building. During the renovation, the entrance changed completely, and a third of the mosaic from 1972 was preserved.

The building in Artern after the renovation

Photo: Norman Hera, 2022

The building in Artern before the renovation

Photo: Martin Maleschka, 2016

In Wolframshausen, the mural by Jost Heyder was integrated into the refurbishment design. No insulation was installed around the artwork. The painting has not been restored and remains partly damaged.

The school in Wolframshausen at the time of renovation

Photo: Heidelore Kneffel for the magazine of Landkreis Nordhausen, 2005