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## **Presentation- und Informationevent Cooper'actif,**

## **Opening of the photoexhibition and Videocontact in Hyères and Tübingen, 10. September 2020**

Invitation, program (in German)

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## **The contribution of Tübingen to the Erasmus+ project "Cooper'actif" - the French Quarter**

"Invite to travel, encourage to dream, inspire to act" - this is the motto of the Erasmus+ project "Cooper'actif", which aims to give young people insights into the very different forms of communal living. At the heart of the educational issues associated with the theme are the values of conviviality, social bonds, participation, solidarity, acceptance of the other and sharing. With participants from Germany, Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Poland, exemplary places in the various countries were visited and their particularities were explored, discussed and documented. A virtual itinerary will connect these places as learning sites for participatory living.

One of these places of learning is Tübingen; its conversion project in Südstadt, which has won many urban development awards, is of particular interest in the Erasmus+ project as the "cradle of participatory housing" and cooperative neighborhood development.

### **The French Quarter**

After the French garrison had left the barracks in Südstadt in the early 1990s, the city of Tübingen took advantage of this opportunity and bought land and buildings. Thanks to its determination as an urban development area, new forms of participatory urban planning could be developed and implemented under the motto "City of Short Distances" with the four conceptual components

- Mix of uses (residential, commercial, old and new buildings)
- Parcelling in connection with compact development
- Realization by the future users: in Baugemeinschaften
- Reclaiming public space.

The entire urban development area covers 60 hectares. At first the Loretto Quarter and the French Quarter (1995 to 2008 on the site of the former Hindenburg Barracks) were developed. What was new about this urban development? It was not only the allocation of the building sites to Baugemeinschaften, but also the concept of not selling the building sites to the highest bidder, but to the bidder with the best contribution to social, cultural and economic diversity in the quarter. Today, approximately 2400 people live in the French Quarter on 10 hectares in an urban and lively district that is characterized by a consistent mix of uses, high density and diverse architecture. Numerous former military buildings have been converted for various purposes and illustrate the process of civilization of military areas.

The French Quarter, together with the Loretto Quarter, is part of the exhibition in which photographer Jean Belvisi has documented the special features of the various learning locations in Europe.

## The Werkstadthaus



*"The public workshop offers rooms, tools and guidance for manual, social and cultural self-work, is not only a home and neighborhood workshop, but an offer for the whole neighborhood and beyond. The vision is that the workshop will become a meeting place, a place of communication, a break room, a consultation room, an event room ... for the new district, that it will replace what is otherwise lost in cities, the place by the fountain, where uncomplicated conversations are possible."*

With this vision, a Baugruppe was able to acquire a building site in the newly emerging French Quarter.

Since 2002, the non-profit association "Werkstatt für Eigenarbeit e.V." has been running the Werkstadthaus. On a total of 3 floors, the house is a place where ideas can grow and be realized as a meeting place and open workshop. This is where carpentry, pottery, repairs, exchanges, sewing, welding, screwing, thinking, discussions and much more is done. Encounter and exchange are uncomplicated, possible without the pressure of consumption, bridges between generations, income groups and cultures are created.

The open workshops (wood, bicycle, metal, textile and ceramics) offer a shared infrastructure for do-it-yourself activities. Neighborhood projects promote lively exchange between residents:innen; other initiatives (and private individuals) also use the premises (as well as the loaner cargo bicycle) in the French Quarter. For children and families there are children's holiday weeks and other offers. The monthly repair café promotes the sustainable use of resources - and helps all the useful or useless (but loved) things to a second life. The Werkstadthaus also has two community gardens: the "Green Tilsiter" and the "Wild Lime Tree".

With all these offers, the Werkstadthaus wants to make encounters and exchanges possible and provide impulses for an ecologically sustainable and socially fairer world. In addition, Werkstadthaus also offers guided tours of the neighborhood for interested groups, presenting and explaining the special features of the French Quarter.

The Werkstadthaus is important part of a Baugruppe with 14 flats on three stockwerke. The name Werkstadthaus is a combination of the three words Werkstatt= workshop, Stadt= city, Haus = house,

## **Partner in the Erasmus+ project**

After the Tübingen-based Institut culturel franco-allemand left the Erasmus+ project, Werkstadthaus 2019 became a cooperation partner in the project and was able to contribute its experience and expertise to the encounters and events.


On behalf of the Werkstadthaus, Gabriele Steffen accompanied the Erasmus+ project through ongoing contacts with the partners, contributions to the numerous video conferences, e.g. on topics of urban planning, neighborhood development and the methodology of city explorations, collaboration on the publication, and much more, mostly in French.

Unfortunately, the event with young people from the partner countries, which was planned for May 2020 in the Werkstadthaus and has already been prepared, had to be cancelled due to the Corona pandemic.

As a contribution to the Erasmus+ project, a tour of the French Quarter was created in the Werkstadthaus with 6 points of view, inviting visitors to explore the special features of this urban quarter for themselves. On September 10, 2020, Jean Belvisi's photo exhibition on the selected learning locations and the tour of the French Quarter were presented at the Werkstadthaus. The event was marked by the exceptional conditions of 2020: the opening of a photo exhibition in the form of a video conference in Hyères and Tübingen, a very inopportune date, an inevitably very limited number of participants. Nevertheless, the cross-border opening of the exhibition, the discussion on different forms of communal living stimulated by the photos and the new ideas on how young people can explore a neighbourhood from different angles were valuable results for transnational exchange, dissemination and the development of the project.

In the following text, the tour is supplemented by photos of the respective points of view.



<p>Auszug aus dem Amtlichen Stadtplan</p> <p>Gemarkung: Haug</p> <p>Ersteller: FAB Geoinformation und EDV</p> <p>Erstellungsdatum: 04.07.2018</p>	<p>Erstellt für Maßstab 1:5.000</p> <p>0 10 20 Meter</p> <p>Stadtgrundkarte: FAB Vermessung</p> <p>Höhenangaben in Tübinger Höhen</p>	
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## Viewpoints in the French Quarter

- 1** Horse Stables
- 2** Bus stop Aixer Straße
- 3** Belfry Kirch am Eck
- 4** Tank hall
- 5** Place of the unknown deserter
- 6** Carriage project

## Tour with 6 "viewpoints" in the French Quarter: Who is it for?

The tour is an offer for people who want to walk on their own initiative, as well as for school classes or groups of young people who want to explore the quarter on their own provided with some impulses.

### Concept

The French Quarter in Tübingen is an example of a different, cooperative form of urban development, not with big developers but together with the future residents, who realise their idea of life in the city in private building cooperatives.

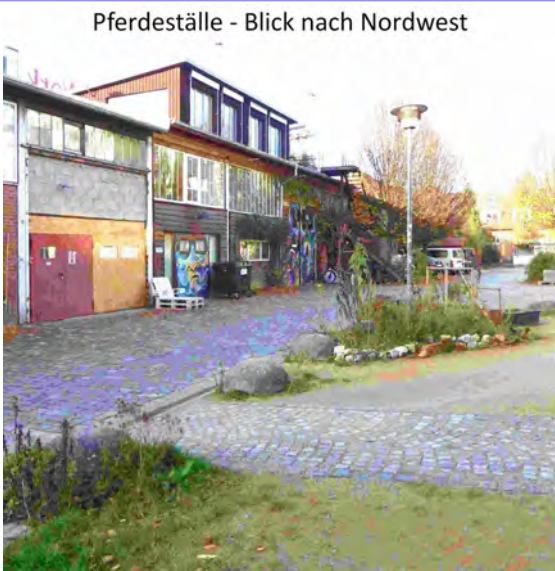
The selected points of view are intended to stimulate people to "read" a city, to observe, to look, to compare (what is "different"?), to enter into conversation, to understand connections, to get to the bottom of quality of life.

The tour focuses on places ("viewpoints") that encourage people to stop, look around and stay, and in this way enable different perspectives and activities - in other words, not individual projects as hot spots are selected and there is no suggestion of a particular sequence. The information provided includes references to the spatial context, the surrounding buildings and uses, social life, green and open spaces, culture and history and others.

A second level is provided by the table below with specific proposed themes: The table shows as an example the various aspects under which the characteristics and special features of an urban *quarter* can be considered.

Topics	Observing	researching, exploring	understanding interpreting
People, life	Who's on the road? What are the people doing?	Where are places to rest? To be active? Where can you drink a coffee?	
Urban development	Contact between street and buildings Size of the lots Design of the facades Age of the buildings (old and new)	What are the building rules? How is the structure of ownership?	
Public space	Which facilities are provided? What happens in the tank hall? What are the uses?	Are there conflicts between public and private? Which ones?	
Mobility	Where are people on the road? How many buses are there? Where are the cars of car sharing (TeilAuto)?	Where and how are cars parked? What are the cycle paths to the city centre like?	
Economy	Which kind of shops, offices and workshops are there?	How many jobs are there in the district?	
cultural / social institutions	What is to be seen in shop windows? Where are meeting points? Where are studios?	What offers are there for different living situations?	

Pferdeställe - Blick nach Nordwest



Pferdeställe - Blick nach Nordost



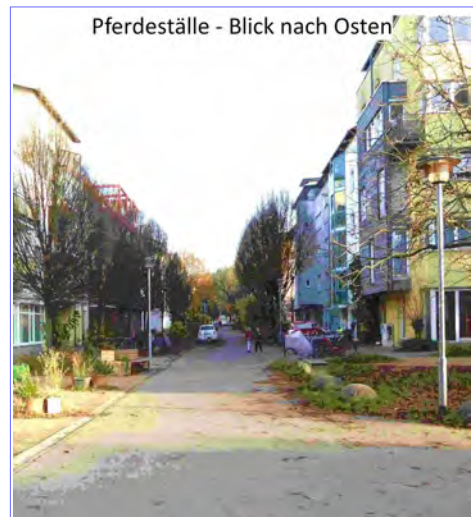
**Pferdeställe /Ecuries à chevaux /Horse Stables**

<b>Where do we stand?</b> Location and surroundings	On the western edge of the French Quarter, at the back of the "Holzwerk" factory, on the Französische Allee
<b>What do we see?</b> Buildings and usages	Low, U-shaped old clinker brick buildings, now individually developed and used for flats, studios and workshops, on either sides of the Frz. Allee new buildings with commercial use on the ground floor, day-care centre for children, a wide public space on Frz. Allee, rather intimate public space along the old buildings
<b>What is happening here?</b> Information on activities	Plenty of space to meet and play, no car dominance, children can visit businesses and see them working.
<b>What was before?</b> Culture and history	The old buildings were horse stables of the original Hindenburg barracks, built in the 1930s
Tips for observing, doing...	Mix of living and working - How many commercial enterprises, how many flats? What is the noise situation? What is the effect of public space?

Pferdeställe - Blick nach Süden



Pferdeställe - Blick nach Osten





<b>Bushaltestelle Aixer Straße / Arrêt de bus Aixer Straße / Bus stop Aixer Straße</b>	
<b>Where do we stand?</b> Location and surroundings	Bus stop Aixer Straße, before the street Wennfelder Garten joins Aixer Straße
<b>What do we see?</b> Buildings and usages	In the north the old horse stables, on this side of the street converted on the ground floor into restaurants, workshops and offices, a large former military building with flats and day-care centre, in the east the large square with the tank hall, in the south a large yellow/red/blue new building with flats, restaurants and shops on the ground floor
<b>What is happening here?</b> Information on activities	Aixer Straße is the shopping and meeting point of the French quarter, many people meet in the public space, sit, stand, talk
<b>What was before?</b> Culture and history	The yellow/red/blue block was the first new building constructed by a Baugruppe as pioneers in the new French quarter (project 14)
Tips for Observing, doing...	How often do the buses run? How many bikes, how many cars are on the road? What shops are there?





Glockenturm - Blick nach Nordwesten



Glockenturm - Blick nach Nordosten



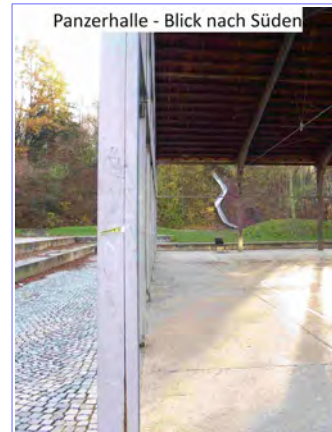
<b>Glockenturm Kirch am Eck / L'église du clocher au coin de la rue / Belfry Kirch am Eck</b>	
<b>Where do we stand?</b> Location and surroundings	on the southern edge of the French Quarter, in the transition to the Wennfelder Garten (traditional social housing estate, now a lot of new construction)
<b>What do we see?</b> Buildings and usages	The bell tower belongs to Kirch am Eck, an ecumenical institution of the Catholic St. Michael's parish and the Protestant Eberhards parish. All the buildings are new buildings, the public space is traffic-calmed, and there is a commercial enterprise with a workshop facing Aixer Straße. On the other side of Eisenhutstraße the new buildings are being built in the Wennfelder Garten
<b>What is happening here?</b> References to activities	In the Kirch am Eck many events for the whole quarter and the adjoining quarter, cross-religious, also serves the adjoining quarter Wennfelder Garten in the south.
<b>What was before?</b> Culture and history	The old apartment buildings in the Wennfelder Garten were built in the 1950s for refugees. Due to their hidden location behind the Hindenburg barracks used by the French occupation, the residents were only slightly integrated. Since 2015 the old blocks of flats have been gradually demolished and replaced by new buildings from the housing companies GWG and GSW.
Tips for observing, doing ...	What are the differences between the buildings on either side of Eisenhutstrasse (Frz. Viertel-Wennfelder Garten)?

Glockenturm - Blick nach Süden



Glockenturm - Blick nach Osten





<b>Panzerhalle / Halle des Chars / Tank hall</b>	
<b>Where do we stand?</b> Location and surroundings	On the free space at the eastern end of the tank hall
<b>What do we see?</b> Buildings and usages	In front of us the large covered open space of the tank hall, next to it an old sports hall, in the north parking spaces for carsharing under old walnut trees, in the east a large new residential block with underground car park, next to it and in the south a green, bushy slope with play facilities and a large slide.
<b>What happens here?</b> Information on activities	The tank hall is the recreational lounge of the French Quarter. Young and old meet here to play, do sports, sit and talk, for events.
<b>What happened before?</b> Culture and history	The name refers to its original use during the barracks period. The historical steel construction could be revealed by preserving the roof and removing the side walls.
Tips for observing, doing ...	What could be the rust-coloured stele at the north-east corner? Which groups use the tank hall? How are the areas around the tank hall used?



Platz d. unbek. Deserteurs - Blick nach Nordosten



**Platz des unbekanntes Deserteurs/ Place du déserteur inconnu/  
Place of the unknown deserter**

<b>Where do we stand?</b> Location and surroundings	On the square at the eastern end of Frz. Allee
<b>What do we see?</b> Buildings and usages	New buildings of very different designs in the north and east, the Blaulach floodplain in the south and the Werkstadthaus in the corner building, the old military buildings in the west, now used as student accommodation and restaurants
<b>What happens here?</b> Information on activities	The square invites adults to play petanque, children play on the Blaulach river and the cows of the Wagenburg graze, the Werkstadthaus is a versatile meeting place for the district
<b>What was before?</b> Culture and history	The name of the square refers to the quarter's warlike past. Shortly before the end of the 2nd World War deserters were executed behind the Hindenburg Barracks.
Tips for observing, doing ...	How and why do the buildings around the square differ? What services are available at the Werkstadthaus? What happens along the Blaulach?

Platz d. unbek. Deserteurs - Blick nach Südosten



Platz d. unbek. Deserteurs - Blick nach Südwesten





<b>Wagenburgen / Quartier de caravanes / Carriage project</b>	
<b>Where do we stand?</b> Location and surroundings	On the former tank road, which leads from the intersection Eisenhutstraße/Wennfelder Garten uphill to the former training area of the French military
<b>What do we see?</b> Buildings and usages	The two carriage projects of Bambule and Kuntabunt are somewhat hidden to the east behind a wooden fence. In the north the site of a sheep farm, in the south the last social buildings in the Wennfelder Garten
<b>What is happening here?</b> Information on activities	The carriage projects are a special form of experimental living with deliberately low resource consumption. A tour around the area from the outside gives an insight into the area, from the Panzerstraße next the wooden fence downhill to the left, then left again in the floodplain of the Blaulach to the first houses of the French quarter
<b>What was before?</b> Culture and history	After the withdrawal of the French soldiers, the empty area of the Hindenburg Barracks became the target of many carriages, in which the inhabitants wanted to realise their idea of alternative living and housing. After long and controversial political debates, the city of Tübingen made at the edge of the quarter the site available for 2 groups of carriages and secured the locations through leases
Tips for observing, doing ...	Visitors interested in the experimental living can register at <a href="mailto:wagenburgen@posteo.net">wagenburgen@posteo.net</a> How will the open-air site adjoining to the south be used? Why is there still a sheep farm there?





# werkstadthaus

## Einladung: Kooperativ Planen und Leben im europäischen Zusammenhang

Das Werkstadthaus hat gemeinsam mit sieben anderen Organisationen aus fünf europäischen Ländern am Erasmus+ Projekt "Cooper'actif: Gemeinsam anders leben - in Zukunft" teilgenommen. Jugendliche, junge Erwachsene und Fachleute unterschiedlicher Bereiche haben sich in vielen Projekten und Begegnungen von September 2018 bis August 2020 über Rahmenbedingungen und gute Beispiele für das Stadtleben der Zukunft ausgetauscht. Tübingen mit dem Südstadt-Projekt fand dabei als Wiege der kooperativen Quartiersentwicklung besonderes Interesse. Leider musste coronabedingt die für Mai 2020 in Tübingen geplante Beteiligungs- und Fachveranstaltung ausfallen. Ein bleibendes Ergebnis des Projekts sollen Wege (virtuell und analog) zu europäischen Projekten kooperativen und partizipativen Planens und Bauens sein.

In kleinem Rahmen laden wir Sie herzlich ein zum Abschluss des Projekts

### "Cooper'actif: Gemeinsam anders leben - in Zukunft"

am 10. September ab 10..30 Uhr

im Werkstadthaus, Aixer Straße 72

Einführung mit dem Film: Lieblingsplätze der Kinder in der Südstadt

Um 11.00 Uhr beginnen wir mit folgendem Programm:

- Begrüßung, Hanna Smitmans, Geschäftsführung Werkstadthaus
- Vorstellung des EU-Projekts, Sybille Hartmann, Verein „Werkstatt für Eigenarbeit e.V.“
- Liveschaltung zur Ausstellungseröffnung von Jean Belvisi  
« In'habitat », *l'entrée du territoire comme construction d'une culture européenne*  
in der Landwirtschaftsschule in Hyères, Südfrankreich
- Tübingen und das Erasmus- Projekt – Beiträge und Chancen, Gabriele Steffen
- Austausch und Gespräche, Apéritif

Im Anschluss gegen 12.30 Uhr laden wir Sie zur Erkundung des Lern-Rundgangs im Französischen Viertel ein.

Wegen der Corona-Auflagen bitten wir um Anmeldung/Rückmeldung unter [Info@werkstadthaus.de](mailto:Info@werkstadthaus.de) bis zum 07. September

Wir freuen uns auf Ihr Kommen!

Fotos: Jean Belvisi

