

# Giving Old Walls a New Purpose

## The Recycling of Buildings and Its Influence on the Social Environment



*Originally built as a farmstead this barn was vacant until 2009, when it was rebuilt as the public library of Weikersheim.*



In times when space for new buildings is scarce and expensive, moving your library into an already existing building can be an option. Rededication of constructions can bring problems and challenges as well as new possibilities.



*In 2004 the town of Luckenwalde declared the railway building, which had been vacant since 1998, an historical monument. The recycling began in 2007 and the decayed train station was transformed into a new information and meeting point.*



In our project at Berlin School of Library and Information Science we collected many examples of libraries that were moved into old convents, churches, schools, stores, military constructions, factories, town halls and other public buildings, banks, prisons and many more and brought them together in a book which shall serve as guidebook and inspiration.



*On the 11th of September, 2007, the new TFH Wildau school library was placed in a renovated 1921 structure built as a dismantling and heavy equipment hall, and now converted into a cafeteria and learning center.*



*For 40 years, this building had been a hall of the teaching printing plant before it became the library of the "Höhere Graphische Bundes-Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt" in Vienna.*

