

PhD topic – Friedrich Kühn

The Organs of the Hanseatic City of Anklam

The aim of my research project is the reconstruction of the history of pipe organs in Anklam. The organ history of e.g. Greifswald, Stralsund or Demmin was in the focus of research several times during the last years and decades because the great amount of archival sources provides detailed information about the organ history of these towns.

Anklam is still a blind spot on the map of the Western Pomeranian organ landscape. The sources are highly fragmented, what leads me to visit archives in Greifswald, Szczecin, Berlin, Demmin, Werder (Alexander Schuke) and Bautzen (Hermann Eule) to complete the Anklam sources.

Detailed knowledge about Anklam's organ history also gives new insights into the cultural situation of the town in different centuries and the importance of church music. The organ builders and organists who visited or lived in Anklam show cultural connections between Anklam and other cities or regions. I also want to examine the effects of political or economic circumstances on the organ building in Anklam and its cultural connections, for example:

- The Swedish-Prussian border which divided Anklam for nearly a century (1720–1815) and the reunification
- The economic revival of the 19th century
- The two world wars
- The policy of the German Democratic Republic
- The German reunification