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**Minimum Documentation Fiche 2011**

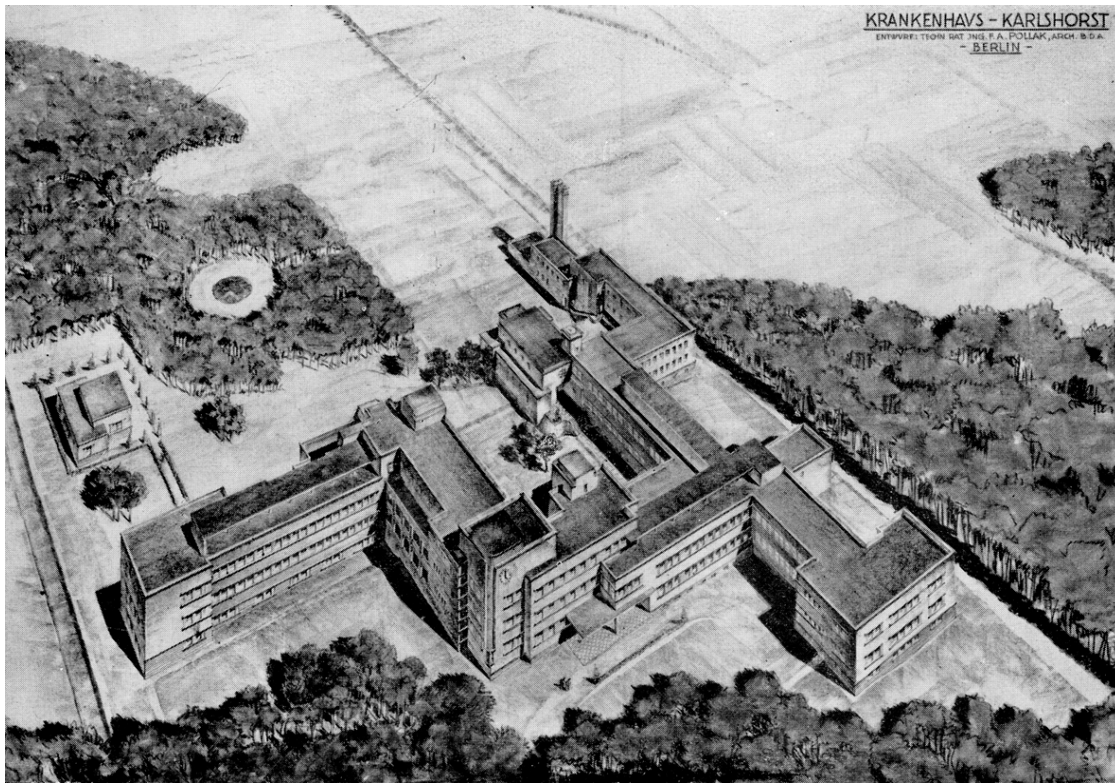
International working party for  
**documentation and conservation**

of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
**modern movement**

composed by national/regional working party of:

Germany

**0.1 St. Antonius-Hospital in Berlin-Karlshorst  
1928/30 by Felix Angelo Pollak**



depicted item: schematic diagram with the hospital complex  
source: SCHMIEDEN, Heinrich, Krankenhausbau in neuer Zeit, Kirchhain 1930, p.24  
date: 1930

db code

- 1. **Identity of building/group of buildings/urban scheme/landscape/garden**
- 1.1 current name of building:  
Katholische Hochschule für Sozialwesen Berlin (KHSB) /

3

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	Catholic College of Social Studies Berlin	
1.2	variant or former name: St. Antonius Hospital	4
1.3	number & name of street: Köpenicker Allee 39-57	5
1.4	Town: Berlin	6
1.5	Province/state: Berlin	7
1.6	zip code: D-10318	8
1.7	Country: Germany	9
1.8	national grid reference: latitude 52°51 longitude 13°40	10
1.9	classification/typology: HLT	11
1.10	protection status & date: The former St. Antonius Hospital, built 1928-1930 by Felix Angelo Pollak, is listed as an architectural monument and protected by the Denkmalschutzgesetz Berlin (Law on the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments of Berlin) of 24 <sup>th</sup> April 1995.	12
<b>2</b>	<b>History of building</b>	
2.1	original brief/purpose: construction of a catholic hospital on the occasion of the foundation of the diocese Berlin at 13 <sup>th</sup> August 1930	13
2.2	dates: commission/completion: With the foundation of the diocese Berlin in 1930, emerged from the diocese Wroclaw, inside the catholic community grew the desire to built a hospital for the new diocese. The diocese Wroclaw was the initiator behind the construction of a new catholic hospital in Berlin. The client was the "Kongregation der Marienschwestern" (Congregation of the Sisters of Mary), founded in Wroclaw 1854, being present in Berlin with welfare institutions since 1888. The financing took place by donations, endowments and borrowing, without any governmental or municipal allowances.  Construction period / date: 1. October 1928: start of construction 16. December 1928: laying of the foundation stone 10. June 1930: dedication	14

- 2.3 Architectural and other designers:: 15  
Responsible for the planning and the final design of the St. Antonius Hospital was architect Felix Angelo Pollak, brother of the councillor of the St. Mary foundation Wroclaw. Responsible for the construction works was the Carl Tuschcherer company (district office Berlin), registered main office in Opole near Wroclaw, successful at the market and specialised in wooden halls and barracks.
- 2.4 others associated with building: 16  
Architect Felix Angelo Pollak got the assignment by the intervention of Dr. jur. Oskar Pollak, councillor of the St. Mary foundation Wroclaw and the architects brother. Involved in the planning of the hospital Dr. med. Paul Lazarus, radiologist, cancer scientist and director of the clinic till 1933. Lazarus fled from the National Socialists to Switzerland in 1936.
- 2.5 significant alterations with dates: 17  
The hospital was cleared in May 1945, because the area around the Köpenicker Allee became a military area for the sovjet forces. The Antonius Hospital continued the services in Berlin-Friedrichshagen. After May 1945 the buildings of the former Antonius Hospital were in use as administrative center by the "Sowjetische Militäradministration in Deutschland / SMAD" (Soviet Military Administration in Germany). When the military area was dissolved in 1963 the hospital complex became the administrative center of the GDR-Ministry "Land-, Forst- und Nahrungsgüterwirtschaft" (Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food industry). The Ministry occupied the property till the end of the GDR in 1990.  
Although the utilisation of the property Köpenicker Allee was not a hospital since the end of the war, the former St. Antonius Hospital complex did not change too much. Most of the buildings remained original and look well-preserved. Structural alterations concern primarily the chapel: removal of the court with fountain by single-storey extensions, elimination of any christian imagery (crosses, sculptures). Also the hospital services installations inside the buildings are destroyed completely.
- 2.6 current use: 18  
With the end of the GDR and the reassignment of the property to the order Sisters of Mary in December 1990 the "St. Marien e.V." (incorporated association) took over the administration of the area and the buildings of the former St. Antonius Hospital. The Catholic College of Social Studies Berlin (KHSB) started its research and teaching business, till today. There exists also the retirement home "Seniorenstift St. Antonius" since 2001.
- 2.7 current condition: 19  
Since the occupation by the KHSB area and buildings of the former St. Antonius Hospital has been renovated successively after 1990. Restorations and renovations were made to regain the former appearances of damaged buildings. For example: The original sculpture of the holy Antony, a nonmovable figure near the main entrance, covered by elements attached recently, was re-exposed.

### 3 Description

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3.1	general description:	20
	<p>The St. Antonius Hospital, named after the holy Anthony of Padua and patron of the hospital, is located about 8 miles southeast of Berlin town centre, amidst the garden suburb Karlshorst. A scenic, undulating landscape with pines shapes the hospitals surroundings.</p> <p>The hospital complex with 4,7 hectares was built for 3 main departements: surgery, internal medicine and women department. Another department with a sanatorium for consumptives was planned (cf. the t-shaped annex in southeast on the diagram with the planned hospital complex, page 1), but was not realised.</p> <p>The buildings together have a coverage of 4.800m<sup>2</sup> with a gross floor area about 14.000m<sup>2</sup>. The bed space adds up to 300, splitted up to 76 hospital rooms. The planning of the hospital left the door open for an increase up to 700 beds by new annexes. All in all the hospital had 300 rooms, of them are 4 operating theatres, sterilization rooms, laboratory for metabolic disease, radio- and deep therapy, x-ray department, rooms for lightcures, bath department, one pharmacy, lecture halls and an institute for cancerresearch. The room schedule furthermore contained various utility services like butchery, bakery and laundry, self-contained power and water supply and flats for the hospital staff. The area reserved for the sisters contained a sisters' hostel and a chapell, open to the patients also.</p> <p>The structure of the hospital as a meandering, mult-wing complex intends to reproduce a social-hygienical building concept, but is also explainable from the statutory provisions concerning the local zoning regulations. Berlins new building law from 1925 permitted only buildings with max. two or three floors in garden suburb areas. This is one main reason for the extensive utilization of the site. On the other hand the architect had the chance to create a complex with separate, independent departments, each constructed under hygienic aspects, close to distinct solutions concerning position of the sun or aeration. All the hospital rooms faces south and/or east. Furthermore large roof terraces with open and covered halls for the reclining patients allowed wholesome fresh air therapy.</p>	
3.2	construction:	21
	<p>The hospital is a conventional brick building (plastered) with flatroof and not really innovative. Brick facing was used for the plinth aera and the eaves because of visual reasons. The main entrance is representative designed with travertine for walls, floor places and entrance staircase.</p>	
3.3	context: no information	22
<b>4</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>	
4.1	technical:	23
	<p>From a technical view the St. Antonius hospital is a conventional brick building and less innovative. In that time you can find (even in Germany) better examples with a special interest for structural design and construction methods, with Richard Döcker's „Bezirkskrankenhaus“ (district hospital) in Waiblingen (1926-1928, demolition 1960) leading the way, which was constructed with a modern extendable steel skeleton. However from a medical engineering view (technical equipment for the patients care, research facilities) the St. Antonius hospital was one of the most modern hospitals in Germany that time.</p>	

#### 4.2 social:

Between 1900 and 1930 in Germany a public discussion was held about the hospital of the future, especially about the „outdoor“-hospital and its health care significance. Social-hygienic aspects determined the architectural implementation for the contemporary modern hospital, similar to the question how to build schools or housing estates to its best. The architects in those days eagerly seized the propaganda of a better healing process by light, fresh air and sun and sometimes they could realize remarkable plans for a modern hospital. The Berlin doctor Wilhelm Dosquet figured out (around 1905) that pavilion buildings (equipped with slide windows and covered terraces) and outdoor therapy could be helpful for a quicker recovery of the patients. Since Dosquet made his research public the outdoor therapy became an important fact in the architects hospital planning. One of the most wellknown hospitals of the modern movement in Germany, influenced by the thoughts of Dosquet, was the already mentioned „Bezirkskrankenhaus Waiblingen“ by Richard Döcker, as well as Otto Bartning’s paediatric clinic at the Rittberg Hospital in Berlin-Lichterfelde, built 1927/28. The „forrest“-hospital St. Antonius in Karlshorst stands in the tradition of these hospitals, constructed under social-hygienic aspects. The large roof terraces with open and covered halls for the reclining patients reflect the climate-therapeutical approach.

24

#### 4.3 cultural & aesthetic:

The design of the St. Antonius Hospital documents modern movement architecture. All the buildings of the hospital do have flat roofs. The hospital impresses by the well balanced proportion of the cubic capacities, embedded in a scenic, undulating forrest landscape. The facades of the buildings are structured by minor and larger cubes. Nevertheless the ribbon windows give evidence to functionality and efficiency. The white shining facades amidst the dark pineforrest scenery ensure a harmonic, overall effect for the whole complex. Only a few buildings do have ornamental architectural fragments, giving a contrast to the simplicity of the facades: the clock tower designed with red shining bricks and St. Anthonys sculpture, the main entrance with travertine design and the chapell with various christian symbols.

25

#### 4.4 historical:

When the St. Antonius Hospital was completed in 1930 it was one of the most modern and largest hospital complexes in Germany. It constitutes the end of a development in german hospital history, characterized by a progressive specialisation with various buildings for the patients care and the research of disease. St. Antonius Hospital represents a mix of hospital types, on the one hand the pavillon hospital of the 19th century with separate departments and a space-consuming complex, on the other hand a modern hospital, organised, constructed and designed under social-hygienic aspects and the tendencies of the new architecture of the 1920th. Looked at that way the St. Antonius Hospital is different from another new typus of hospital, dedicated to a more compact system (for example the Martin-Luther-Hospital in Berlin-Grunewald, constructed 1930-1933 by Ernst Kopp), which represents the hospital of the late thirties and the development after the war.

26

#### 4.5 general assessment:

The former St. Antonius Hospital was one of the most modern and biggest hospitals in Germany, when it opened 1930. The hospital marks the end of a longtime discussion concerning the question how to construct hospitals and healthcare facilities regarding social, sanitary and curative aspects. The St. Antonius Hospital represents a hospital type which assumes the ideas

27

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of the pavillon system as well as the self-conception of modern architecture at the end of the Weimar Republic.

## 5 Documentation

### 5.1 principal references:

28

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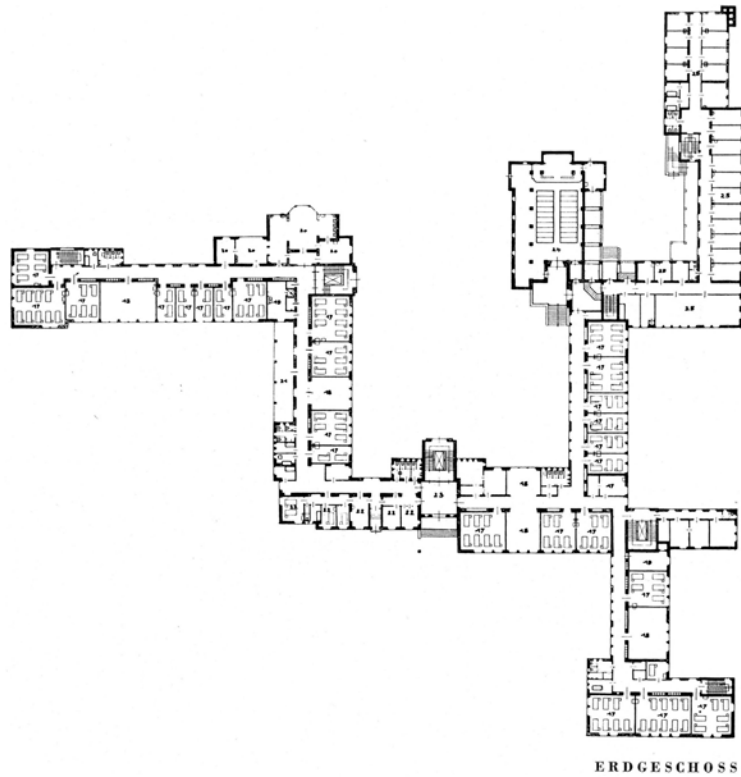
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5.2 **visual material attached**

photographs



depicted item: ground plan main floor

source: SCHMIEDEN, Heinrich, Krankenhausbau in neuer Zeit, Kirchhain 1930, p.27

date: 1930

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depicted item: south view  
source: Ulrich Borgert, Berlin  
date: June 2011



depicted item: main entrance  
source: Ulrich Borgert, Berlin  
date: June 2011

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depicted item: Anthony sculpture near the main entrance  
source: Ulrich Borgert, Berlin  
date: June 2011

5.3 rapporteur/date:  
Ulrich Borgert, 29.Juni 2011  
Website: [www.maskesuhren.de](http://www.maskesuhren.de)  
mail: [office@maskesuhren.de](mailto:office@maskesuhren.de)

30

## 6. Fiche report examination by ISC/R

name of examining ISC member:

date of examination:

approval:

Wp/ref. no:

comments:

NAI ref. no:

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