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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 Picture of building/site



depicted item: Health Resort named Burgtiefe  
source: <http://www.ig-fehmarn.de/bilder.php>  
date: 2004

	db code
<b>1. Identity of building/group of buildings/urban scheme/landscape/garden</b>	
1.1 Current name of building: Health Resort for the spa town (Ostsee-Heilbad) in Burgtiefe (Fehmarn) at the Baltic sea	3
1.2 Variant or former name:	4
1.3 Number & name of street: Südstrandpromenade	5
1.4 Town: Stadt Fehmarn, Ortsteil Burgtiefe	6
1.5 Province/state: Schleswig-Holstein	7
1.6 Zip code: 23 769	8
1.7 Country: Germany	9
1.8 National grid reference:	10
1.9 Classification/typology: HLT	11
1.10 Protection status & date: Protected monument since 1991: wave pool ("Meereswellenbad"), since 2004: guesthouse of the health resort ("Haus des Kurgastes")	12

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<b>2</b>	<b>History of building</b>	
2.1	Original brief/purpose: Health resort for the Baltic Sea spa town named Burgtiefe including the buildings “Meereswellenbad”(wave pool), “Haus des Kurgastes” (guesthouse of the health resort) and “Kurmittelhaus” (wellness and therapy centre) alongside a spa promenade.	13
2.2	Dates: commission/completion: 1965 competition (under the jury’s chair Egon Eiermann), 1966 contract, 1968 completion of the guesthouse of the health resort, 1972 completion of the wave pool	14
2.3	Architectural and other designers: Architect Arne Jacobsen with Otto Weitling, since 1971 (after the death of Jacobsen) architects Hans Dissing and Otto Weitling	15
2.4	Others associated with building: Engineer M. Folmer Andersen (for the construction of the wave pool)	16
2.5	Significant alterations with dates: In spite of the architects resistance three 17 storied apartment towers were built instead of the 3-4 storied hotel resort in the 1970es. Extensions and alterations of the wellness and therapy centre by Dissing and Weitling at the beginning of the 1990es including alterations of the public space leading to the loss of the buildings’ base structure which was formed like a plateau, as well as the original coloring. Demolition of the wellness and therapy centre 2007.	17
2.6	Current use: wave pool, guesthouse of the health resort	18
2.7	Current condition: The structures of the wave pool and the guesthouse of the health resort are in good condition but not sufficiently maintained. Recent renovations have affected the design of the buildings. The whole ensemble is threatened by the development of a new holiday resort with an adjacent water park.	19
<b>3</b>	<b>Description</b>	
3.1	General description: The health resort Burgtiefe consists of the “Meereswellenbad” (wave pool), “Haus des Kurgastes” (guesthouse of the health resort) and “Kurmittelhaus” (wellness and therapy centre). The ensemble is aligned to a spa promenade along the beach, which not only connects the buildings but also protects from wind and weather. The expressive force of the wave pool is complemented by delicate modernist pavilions. The interior with terrazzo flooring, lighting, furniture and door handles was also designed by Jacobsen. The functions inside the resort’s guesthouse are arranged as islands in the transparent hall. Further hotels, family bungalows and a marina were planned in the vicinity of the resort by Jacobsen.	20
3.2	Construction: The wave pool consists of a load-bearing construction of seven sloped pairs of reinforced concrete beams outside the building. Each span is 8m and the module is 1m. The glass elements of the curtain wall facade (1x3m) are hold by narrow aluminum profiles. The guesthouse of the health resort consists of a skeleton of reinforced concrete and prefab elements of concrete. The glass elements of the curtain wall facade (1x3m) are hold by aluminum profiles. The concrete flat roof cantilevers broadly in each direction. The buildings are connected by pergolas with metal-profiles and wooden elements (sunscreens).	21

- 3.3 Context: The health resort was built on the island south of the city named Burg and had been used for spa reasons since the 19th century. The row of functions along the promenade acts as a „transparent fan“ and allows manifold views. The buildings are carefully imbedded into the surrounding. By placing them upon a plateau, enclosing them by pergola and detailed design of paths, supporting walls, planted and plastered areas, Arne Jacobsen created borders to as well as connections with nature. 22
- 4 Evaluation**
- 4.1 Technical: The wave pool is an example for the examination of the possibilities of the sloped, hanging, hovering or flying roof which is a characteristic subject of Modernism in the 1960ies. The expressivity of the load-bearing construction outside the building as a artistic element is typical during this period. The formation of the glass facade as a Curtain-Wall which works independent from the load-bearing construction is continuity and further development of the Modernism of the 1920ies. 23
- 4.2 Social: The health resort in Burgtiefe is a key object in the history of spa culture at the German Baltic sea during the 1960es which leads to recreation for the general public. The complex is developed in a traditional way along a spa promenade but instead of being built around a palatial hotel it is centred on a wave pool as a modern experimental space. 24
- 4.3 Cultural & Aesthetic: The constructive monumentality of the wave pool whose transparency allows for a sea view as well as the delicate architecture of the resort’s guesthouse form a dynamic concept based on contrast and shared elements. The buildings are characterized by typical features of Arne Jacobsen’s architecture such as the dynamics of horizontal and vertical elements, well-balanced proportions of the facades and the use of only a few noble materials. The elegant and filigree appearance as well as the functional design of the architecture demonstrate highest quality of execution. The pureness of the architecture is characterized by reduction of form and material as well as careful completion of succinct details. 25
- 4.4 Historical: The growth of the bathing traditions at the German Baltic Sea led to new spa resorts by the economic boom in the 1960es. As one of the first of its kind the complex in Burgtiefe can be seen as a key object. The design of the buildings was carefully planned and linear arranged accordant to their function. The pure and clear modern architecture of the health resort is a highlight in spa culture on the German Baltic Seaside in the 1960es. Furthermore, the construction by a Danish architect documents the ambition of the young Federal Republic to be international. Especially Scandinavian Modernism was a big inspiration for German architecture after WW II. 26
- 4.5 General assessment: The health resort in Burgtiefe is a self-consistent piece of art. The elegant and filigree appearance of the architecture as well as the functional design is based on highest quality of execution. The pure and clear modern architecture of the health resort is seen as highlight in spa culture on the German Baltic Seaside in the 1960es. As one of the first of its kind the complex in Burgtiefe is a key object. The clear shape of modernist design combined with expressionistic elements distinguishes itself from the later brutalism and convinces by elegance and careful detailing, the integration of the surrounding nature reflects the artistic value of the complex. For its preservation it is crucial that every intervention and alteration is carried out with special care as even little changes can lead to the loss of architectural quality. 27

## 5 Documentation

- 5.1 principal references: 28
- Astrid Hansen: Das Haus des Kurgastes. Ein Werk des Architekten Arne Jacobsen in Burgtiefe auf Fehmarn. In: BDB Nachrichten 11, Februar 2006 ([www.bdbsh.de](http://www.bdbsh.de))
  - Astrid Hansen: Das „Ostsee-Heilbad“ Arne Jacobsens in Burgtiefe auf Fehmarn. Ein Gesamtkunstwerk in Gefahr. In: Die Denkmalpflege 1 2005, 63. Jahrgang
  - Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek Hrsg.: Arne Jacobsen - absolute modern, Ostfildern-Ruit, 2003
  - Felix Solaguren-Beascoa: Arne Jacobsen. Approach to his Complete Works 1950-1971. Barcelona 2001
  - Klaus Alberts, Ulrich Höhns (Hrsg.): Architektur in Schleswig-Holstein seit 1945. Hamburg 1994
  - Deutsche Bauzeitung 9 1967, S.714: Seebad Fehmarn
  - [www.ig-fehmarn.de](http://www.ig-fehmarn.de)
- 5.2 visual material attached: 29  
Drawing and photographs
- 5.3 rapporteur/date: Monika Markgraf, June 2011 30

## 6. Fiche report examination by ISC/R

name of examining ISC member:

date of examination:

approval:

Wp/ref. no:

NAI ref. no:

comments:

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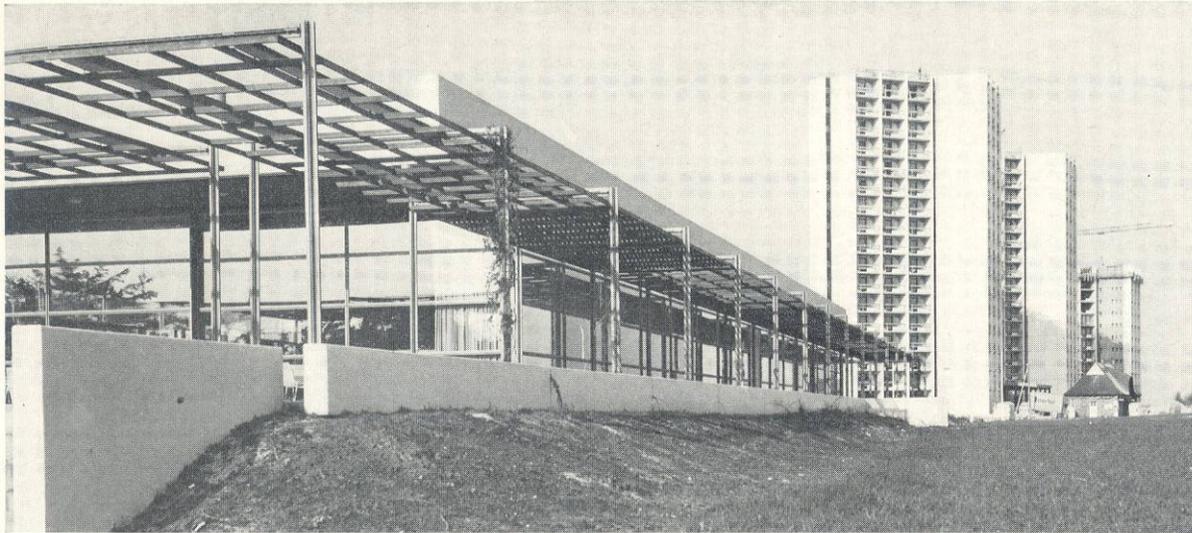
depicted item: Wave pool and apartment towers  
source: Astrid Hansen  
date: 2003

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depicted item: Guesthouse of the Health Resort  
source: Bauwelt (61) 1970, S. 1114  
date: 1970



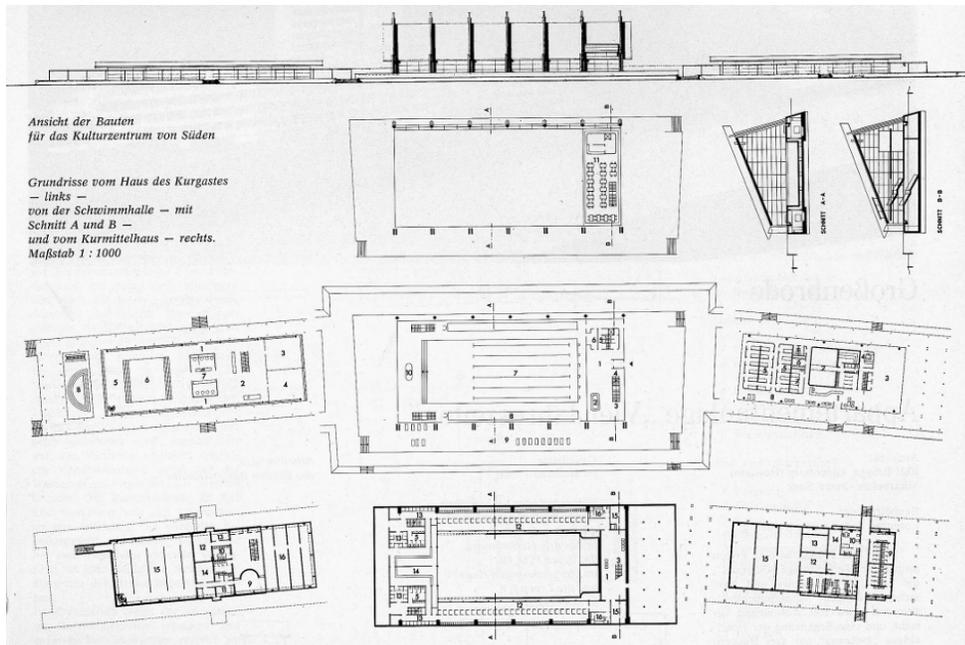
depicted item: Health Resort  
source: Astrid Hansen  
date: 2003

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depicted item: wave pool, guesthouse of the health resort, wellness and therapy centre  
 source: Bauwelt (61) 1970, S. 1114  
 date: 1970



depicted item: interior of the guesthouse of the health resort  
 source: Astrid Hansen  
 date: 2003

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