Maternity and Midwifery Training Institute in the Royal Residence City of Hanover

The Maternity and Midwifery School in the royal residence city of Hanover, also briefly referred to as the Royal Midwifery School, was a maternity hospital operated in the eponymous residence city of Hanover during the Kingdom of Hanover era. It also served as a training facility for midwives and a women's clinic. Its location was at the address Meterstraße 28 in the Südstadt district of Hanover.

History

The Maternity and Midwifery School was a follow-up project of the "Accouchir Hospital", which was established in the time of the Electorate of Brunswick-Lüneburg at the initiative of the mayor of Hanover. It began operations in 1781 in the Old Town at Großes Wolfeshorn, today's Großer Packhofstraße. After a temporary relocation to Osterstraße, the new building in Metersstraße 28, which was designed by Adolf Funk and considered exemplary at the time, was occupied in 1864. It was located in direct proximity to the local nursing home. In the same year, the maternity facility also received its new, "royal" long name.

The clinic provided space for 400 women giving birth, i.e. for 400 births per year, and room for 16 midwife trainees.
The initial rise in childbed fever initially led to a loss of trust among city residents and a drop in occupancy rates. As a result, strict antiseptic measures were introduced from 1883 to 1888. Meanwhile, a gynecological department had also been established in 1884, and not least, the growing population led to increased demand. Therefore, from 1890, considerations were made for a further, larger new building, which was finally realized in the Provincial Midwife Training School on Herrenhäuser Kirchweg, inaugurated in 1903.

The subsequently unused institution on Meterstraße was converted into a school by the architect Oskar Barnstorf at the beginning of the 20th century. After the destruction caused by the air raids on Hanover during the Second World War, the new building of the Meterstraße primary school was constructed on site between 1959 and 1960, according to the plans of architect Adolf Falke in collaboration with Rolf Klein.

Building description

The architectural chronicler Theodor Unger described the Royal Midwife Training School in his city guide published in 1882 as follows: "A beautiful, two-story building in the Romanesque style, made from yellow brick and white Deister sandstone."

The plans for the building, which was constructed from 1862 to 1863, were provided by the Secret Chief Government Architect Adolf Funk and the Government and Building Councillor Julius Rasch. According to another account, the later clinic

director Wilhelm Poten and the Building Councillor Carl Wolff are said to have designed the building.

The construction costs until the completion of the house amounted to 149,160 Marks, equivalent to 163 Marks per square meter. There were 35 cubic meters of converted space available per bed. The institution had a then-novel "central water heating system with ventilation by suction."