

0 kilometre Liechtenstein's - starting point for mapping national roads

This is where the "Ständehaus" ("House of Estates") was located from 1867 to 1970. It was the first dedicated building for Liechtenstein's Parliament. On account of its constitutional importance, the Ständehaus was designated the starting point for mapping Liechtenstein's national road network. For this reason, the symbols <<KM-0.+0.>> were carved onto the building's threshold.



The predecessor of the National Parliament Building: Liechtenstein's Parliament convened at the Ständehaus in Vaduz from 1868 to 1905 behind the three central windows on the first storey. **Image: National Archive**

The three-storey Ständehaus was a spacious building for the time. Sessions of Parliament were held there during a period in which Liechtenstein was experiencing extensive changes, not just at the political level. Beginning in 1865, the entire country was being systematically surveyed. Each plot of land was entered into a cadastre plan, which improved legal security and the protection of private property.

Within the context of the survey work, the importance of the Ständehaus was underscored when the point "0" was carved onto one of the steps leading into the building. Distances to the north and south were calculated from this point, Liechtenstein's symbolic central point.

After 1905, the Ständehaus housed the Realschule or Secondary School. In 1961 the National Library was allocated provisional premises on the first storey. The building was eventually demolished in 1970 to create space for the planned Art Museum and National Library.

Measuring points can still be found at various locations in Liechtenstein to this day.



Image 1: Kilometre stone in Schaanwald

In addition, the measuring points were shown in the old cadastral plan 1: 2'000.



Image 1: Old cadastral plan with Point 1 in Unterau / Rütti, Vaduz

Sources:

- Brücken zur Vergangenheit
- 125 Jahre LandtagBrochure «Das Landtagsgebäude»
- National Archive
- Liechtensteiner Vaterland, 7. Juni 2008, Heribert Beck

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