Augsburg Gate and Town Clerk's House

History...

One of three town gates, the "Augsburg Gate", at times also known as Mittern or Weblinger Gate, stood at the northern entrance to the town for 500 years.

The gatehouse contained the town clerk's office. This was also the night watchman's place of work, who had to guard the gate. His duties included to give the alarm when fire broke out. After his cry of *Fire! Fire! Fire!*, all male citizens were required to hurry to the town hall and take the fire buckets stored there to the public wells to collect water to fight the fire. Nevertheless, Dachau burnt down almost completely in 1398 and 1403. It was only about 450 years later that the Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded, which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2019.

Time did not stand still: technology and traffic continued their inexorable development. With the rise of the motorcar in the late 19th century, the gate had become an obstacle to road building and was demolished in 1892.

... and a story

After the Thirty Years' War, the complaint was that, as a result of *pillaging soldiers and the fervour of some town clerks for pulping* [there was] *almost nothing left.* The town clerk Johann Dickh was asked to repair this and to *fix the broken registry*. But otherwise he was to keep his silence!

Under his successors, a new oak chest equipped with iron fittings and a strong lock was made in 1739 for storing important deeds and money. During the Napoleonic Wars, it was taken to St James's church tower for safe keeping – and then forgotten. It was not until 1987 that it was rediscovered there. Since then it has been exhibited at the District Museum.

The "Augsburg Gate" (outbound) shortly before demolition, 1892

Afterwards: Augsburger Strasse without the gate, with a view of the Dachau district hospital, around 1920

The picturesque old town of Dachau with its 1200-year history features many sites of historical interest. Special buildings of prominence in the townscape are marked by these historical plaques.

Dachau historical plaques are a joint project by the town of Dachau and the Dachau District Museum.

Dachau