



# Castles and Palaces of the Muenster Region

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## The Château Nordkirchen (The "Westphalian Versailles")

### Hülshoff Castle



*Hülshoff Castle is the place of birth of our famous local poetess Annette von Droste-Hülshoff*

The water burg Huelshoff can be seen in the beautiful landscape of Muensterland. It is one of the typical water burgs between Muenster and Havixbeck. In the year 1797 the famous poet Annette von Droste-Huelshoff was born there.

Already at the beginning of the 11th century the water burg Huelshoff was first mentioned in records as Oberhoff ?zum Huelshoff?. At the first it was just a house with thick walls stood on the land area and surrounded by water, as on an island. Only in the time 1540 and 1545 the manor house was extended and the burg was fortified by the order of Heinrich I von Droste Huelshoff, because of the dangerous times. His grandson had to improve the defensive lines further more because of the 30 years war and other problems. Heinrich I also ordered to extend the pond by a channel. In 1628 the current avenue of lime trees was heaped up and paved by the order of Henry II, now it is the main entrance to the castle. In the 16th and 17th century it was rebuild and extended in the style of Barock. The marshy terrain in the south was drained and the trenches was made, for more devense, by the order of Clemens August II, the father of the poet, at the beginning of the 19th Century. But only since the seventies of the 20th Century the front castle had wide ditches. It looks like it stands on an island. The chapel was built in the 1870s.

# Rueschhaus



*Annette of Droste-Huelshoff on the 20 Deutschmark banknote*

Rueschhaus is a jewel of the late Baroque architecture which also keeps the memories of Annette von Droste-Huelshoff, the most famous German poetess of the 19th century. Johann Conrad Schlaun (1695 ? 1773), the famous Baroque builder of Westphalia, acquired Rueschhaus in 1743 and made it his own private estate. Rueschhaus was bought by the Droste-Hülshoff family September 18, 1825, and one year later they moved in and lived there for 20 years .

Annette of Droste-Hülshoff is honoured by being depicted on the last 20 Deutschmark banknote. A picture of Annette can be seen on the front with Meersburg castle in the background and her quill can be seen on the reverse side. The background motif of the reverse side refers to her most famous work: "Die Judenbuche" which was written in Rueschhaus manor.

The banknote circulated only for few years and was replaced by the Euro quite soon.

## Source:

- <http://www.rueschhaus.de/>
- [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haus\\_R%C3%BCschhaus](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haus_R%C3%BCschhaus)
- [http://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Datei:R%C3%BCschhaus\\_bei\\_M%C3%BCnster\\_DH.jpg&filet](http://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Datei:R%C3%BCschhaus_bei_M%C3%BCnster_DH.jpg&filet)

## Erbdrostenhof (Court of the Hereditary Seneschal of the Realm)

Erbdrostenhof in the City of Münster

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