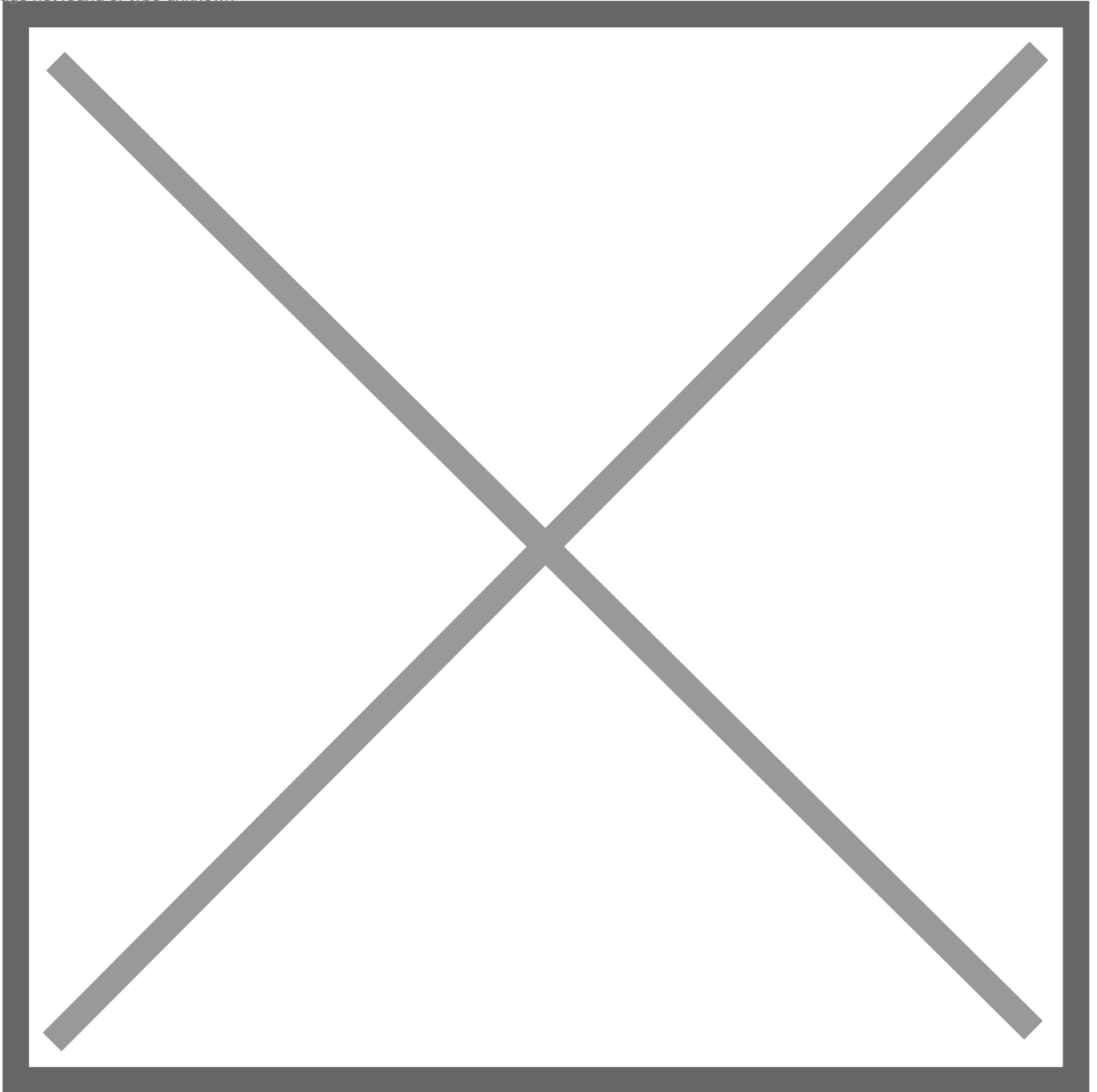


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Städtisches Strandbad Gänsehäufel [City Bathing Beach Gänsehäufel]

Austria

Moissigasse (Donaustadt, district 22), 21
Wien 1220 Wien

Commission

1948

Completion

1950

Original use

Culture/leisure/tourism/balnearies, spa

Current use

Culture/leisure/tourism/balnearies, spa

Architects

Max Fellerer, Eugen Wörle

Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete

Architectural concrete

Architectural concrete

Structural types

One-dimensional/concrete frame, One-dimensional/
[mushroom] column

Description

This island in the Danube, where wooded areas sit alongside more than 2 km of sandy beaches, is one of the favorite places for residents of Vienna to practice river sports and enjoy nature by the riverside. The area was totally destroyed during the Second World War, but reconstruction began in 1948 at the hands of the architects Max Fellerer and Eugen Woerner, and the island was reopened in 1950. The complex includes leisure facilities and restaurants, outdoor swimming pools, river swimming spots, playgrounds and sports fields.

The typical structures in the area are called kaban, a row of private spaces that are rented for the season by individuals, families, groups or associations as support for leisure activities, as dressing rooms, or as storage for river sports equipment. The comb-shaped layout stretches out in two perpendicular arms that form a broad exterior linear concrete porch that is accessible on two levels and provides entrance to the different kaban. At the end of one of these arms, there is the pool area and the common services, cafeterias and restaurants. In some cases, there are sculptural elements – like a mushroom-shaped lookout structure or a tower with a spiral staircase – at the end of the elevated paths.

Both the circulation elements and the individual distinctive elements are built from exposed concrete. In general, the structure involves porticos of columns with square cross sections and beams in the same plane. Then, concrete slabs are set on top of this main structure, in some cases with large cantilevers. The kaban themselves have a simple structure of concrete columns

and beams that is visible on the outside; the sloped roof above extends with an eave that shelters the access path.

The complex began developing problems with concrete carbonation in the 1970s and underwent a comprehensive and highly complex rehabilitation process.

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