

Cultural Landscape Lower Weser



Schiffahrtsmuseum
Unterweser



Weser Customs
Rathausplatz - 26931 Elsfleth
53° 14.147'N - 8° 27.857'E



Amidst the confusion of the Thirty Years War, Duke Anton Günther von Oldenburg (1583-1661) achieved the impossible: He established a customs office along the Lower Weser. Indeed, in the Peace Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, the Weser Customs Office was confirmed. Much to the dismay of, above all, the Hanseatic City of Bremen, each ship which navigated in either direction along the Lower Weser was required to pay a transit fee. As a result, Oldenburg benefitted from impressive revenues until 1856. The first customs station was located in Brake-Harrien, it was established in 1624 in the current City Hall of Elsfleth. At this site, a model of the old customs station of Elsfleth and of the city center can be viewed. Further information is available in the Maritime Museum "Haus Elsfleth".



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