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## The "Himbeerpalast" building symbolizes Siemens like no other edifice in Erlangen

No building in Erlangen has come to be more strongly associated with Siemens than the "Himbeerpalast" at Werner-von-Siemens-Straße 50. Constructed in the Berlin style between 1948 and 1953, the administrative building stands in the heart of the city. Among the oldest parts of the complex is the lecture theater, which stems from the initial phase of construction in 1948/49 and has protected historic building status.

### **Investment in Erlangen for strategic reasons**

Siemens' main administrative building at Werner-von-Siemens-Straße 50 in Erlangen, which acquired its unusual name ("Himbeerpalast" translates literally as "raspberry palace") by virtue of its red facade, was erected in the years immediately following the Second World War on what was then the largest construction site in Southern Germany. This investment by Siemens in Erlangen was by no means a given at the time: originally the company intended to establish a base in Hof after the war to complement its presence in Munich, but the decision eventually went in favor of Erlangen thanks to the presence of Erlangen University, with which Siemens wanted to build close ties, and the limited amount of war damage suffered by the city (Erlangen emerged from the war and its air raids relatively unscathed in comparison with cities like Nuremberg).

Siemens expanded rapidly over the following years and as its workforce grew, so further administrative buildings and facilities such as the research center appeared, along with neighboring residential developments. None of these new additions has even come close to the Himbeerpalast in terms of symbolic importance though. Today Siemens employs approximately 24,000 people in Erlangen, 820 of whom work at Werner-von-Siemens-Straße 50.

**For conferences and events**

One of the oldest parts of the complex is the lecture theater located on floors 5 and 6, which enjoys protected historic building status. Now available to theater groups, the university and for music performances as well as hosting internal Siemens events, it was completed in 1949 and can accommodate 386 people.



The building known as the "Himbeerpalast" at Werner-von-Siemens-Straße 50 in Erlangen took shape between 1948 and 1953. It owes its affectionate nickname to its red facade.

You can find this background information and a photo on the internet at

[www.siemens.com/presse/vor-hannover-pk-2015](http://www.siemens.com/presse/vor-hannover-pk-2015)

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