



Excursion along the river Zschopau at 2011 October 26th

(written by Harry Weinert, December 22nd, 2011)

For our report "Hydropower along the river Zschopau through the Ages" some member of the project group visited by lousy weather some different locations.

We started at the "Castle mill" near Lichtenwalde/Braunsdorf. This mill was active as a mill for grain, especial feed until 1992. The high water flood of the year 2002 destroyed irrecoverable large parts of historic buildings (drying kiln, depots , store, storages, outside elevators and the mainly components of the mill grinder and the complete drive, electro installation a.s. Today the former living house of the mill owner endemic is changed to a music school. The former hydropower station was made operational again. During our visit we could see the erection of a fish ladder and a construction for residual water.



After about a 1.5 km march by foot upstream, we came to the "Webermühle". For more than 400 years there has been grounded grain to flour products. Small and large bakeries and canteen kitchens are?/ were supplied with different type of flour products. A specialty is the flour mixture for the well-known and tasty "Mühlenbrot", the baking mixture is a creation of the mill owner. For all the time of existing, the mill has been supplied with own energy from hydropower. The company, which owned hydropower station, was also damaged heavily during the high water tide in 2002 Today it is in operating again.



In a distance of approximately 700m we came to the "Tannhauer weaving mill", today an historical show weavery, especially for furniture and decorative fabrics. Completely prepared, all facets and stages of process of the Jacquard weavery /weaving mill? were shown on almost historical looms.

The two upper floors were used by the company Camann as a weavery for special articles, historical fabrics and tapestry. Until about 1930 the weaving mill was prosecuted with a water wheel.

This technology was built out. Later the weaving mill was supplied by an own boiler house with a steam engine at least only supplied by electro energy from the central network



The end of our excursion was the "Finkenmühle", today a restaurant with fragments of a former mill. This place had a colorful past. It was erected as a sawmill, driven by a waterwheel and later by a waterturbine. Early came to the off-licence. During the period of industrialization the sawmill was changed to a paper mill . In the period of the GDR the houses were uses as holiday resort of a great company. And now it is a restaurant with pension and popular excursion destination .

(Foto by Weinert)

