

# THE CHALLENGES OF UPDATING HISTORIC SPACES FOR 21ST CENTURY USE



LIBER LAG 2018

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# SCHATZKAMMER DES WISSENS

650 Jahre  
Österreichische  
Nationalbibliothek

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650  
JAHRE

Österreichische  
Nationalbibliothek





223

Babenbergstr.

Opernring

Opernpl.

Gervicg.

Muschg.

Lobkowitzpl.

Glückg.

Plankeng.

Braunig.

Stallburgg.

In der Burg

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## Focus

- Underground storage
- Transport system – Telelift
- Reform of the Federal Museum Law
- Refurbishment and expansion projects
  - Circulation desk
  - Main reading room and magazine reading room
  - Canteen, staircase and sanitary facilities
  - Austriaca reading room
  - Ludwig Wittgenstein research reading room (for scientists)

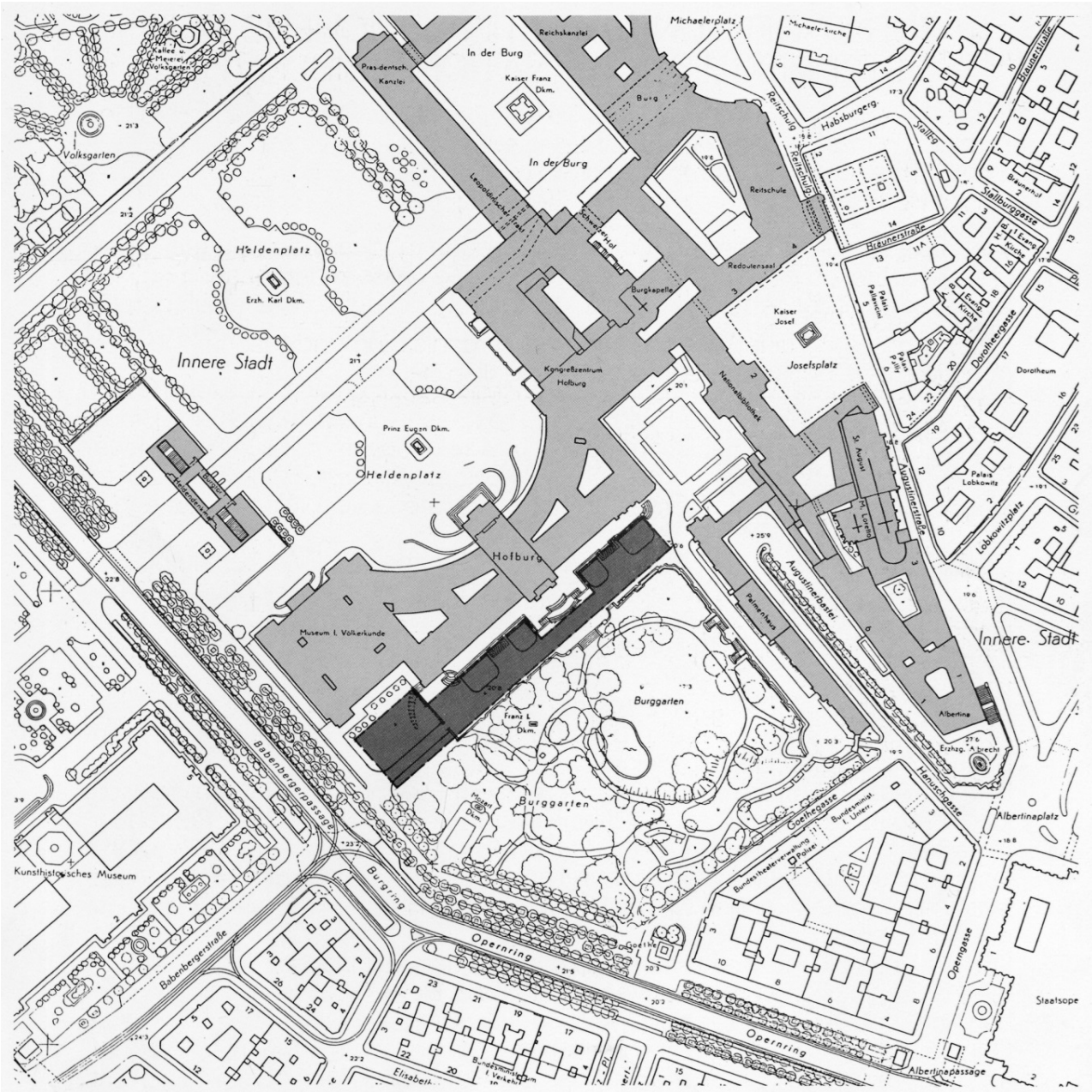


## Underground storage

- 1930
  - Planning of a central library (corner of Währinger Str./Spitalgasse)
- 1938
  - Replacement for glass house in the Burggarten
  - Extension of 140m length on 4 levels
- 1950
  - Planning extension building
  - Extension building as a link between Albertina and main building on 9 levels (partly underground)
- 1960
  - Feasibility study
  - Plans for today's underground storage next to the Neue Burg



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Connection between the  
baroque main building and  
the Neue Burg



WERTHEIM-WERKE A.G.  
WIEN



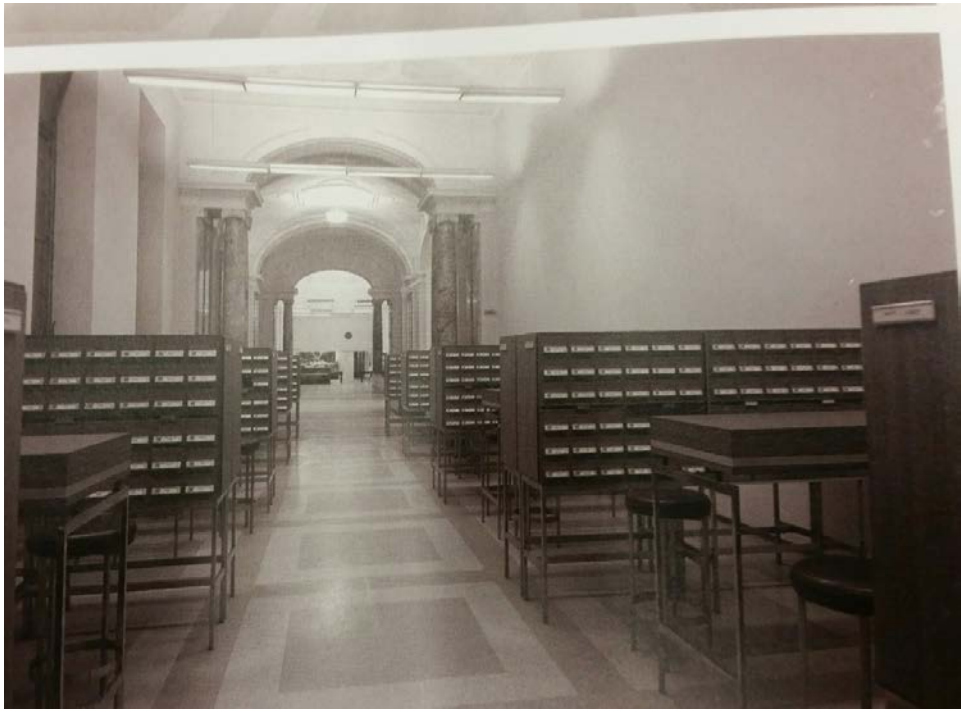


## Decision criteria

- The area is the property of the Republic of Austria
- Connection to the entrance hall, catalog, reading rooms of the Neue Burg
- It was possible to build a high security area for the most valuable stocks
- Construction of a newspaper reading room with natural lighting (Burggarten)
- Connection to the historic core – the State Hall
- The historic park was not affected. For the surface design a solution could be found (cooperation with the Federal Monuments Authority Austria)



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## Construction phase – Project data

- Construction phase March 1, 1988 - June 25, 1992

### Project data

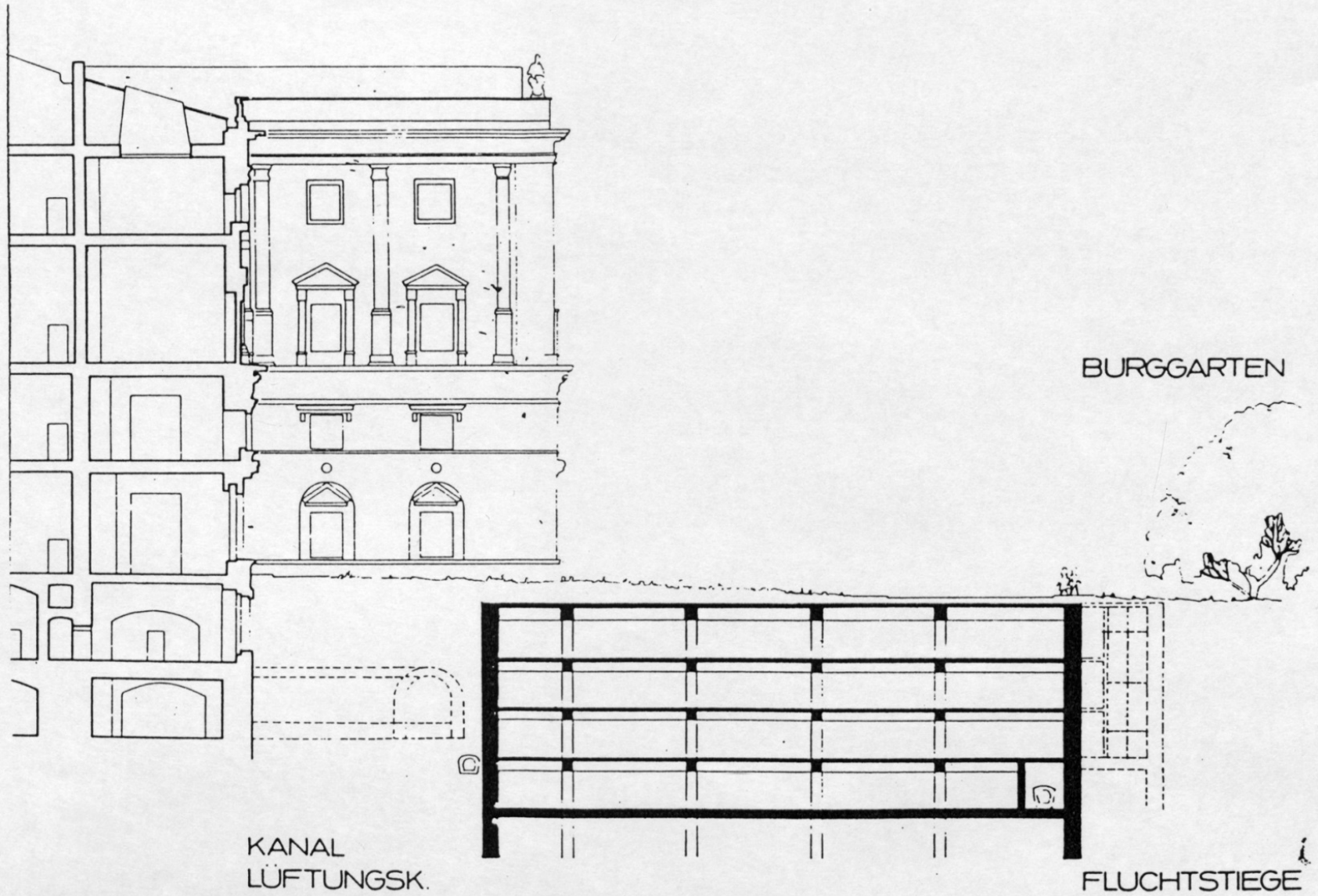
- Built-up area: 5.000m<sup>2</sup>
- Total usable area: 16.300m<sup>2</sup>
- Storage capacity: about 4 million volumes
- Total construction costs: approx. S 300,000.000 (approx. € 21.8 million)
- Costs of the institution: approx. S 42,000.000 (approx. € 3.05 million)

### Facts

- Length: 200m
- Depth below level: 15m
- Width between 12m and 36m

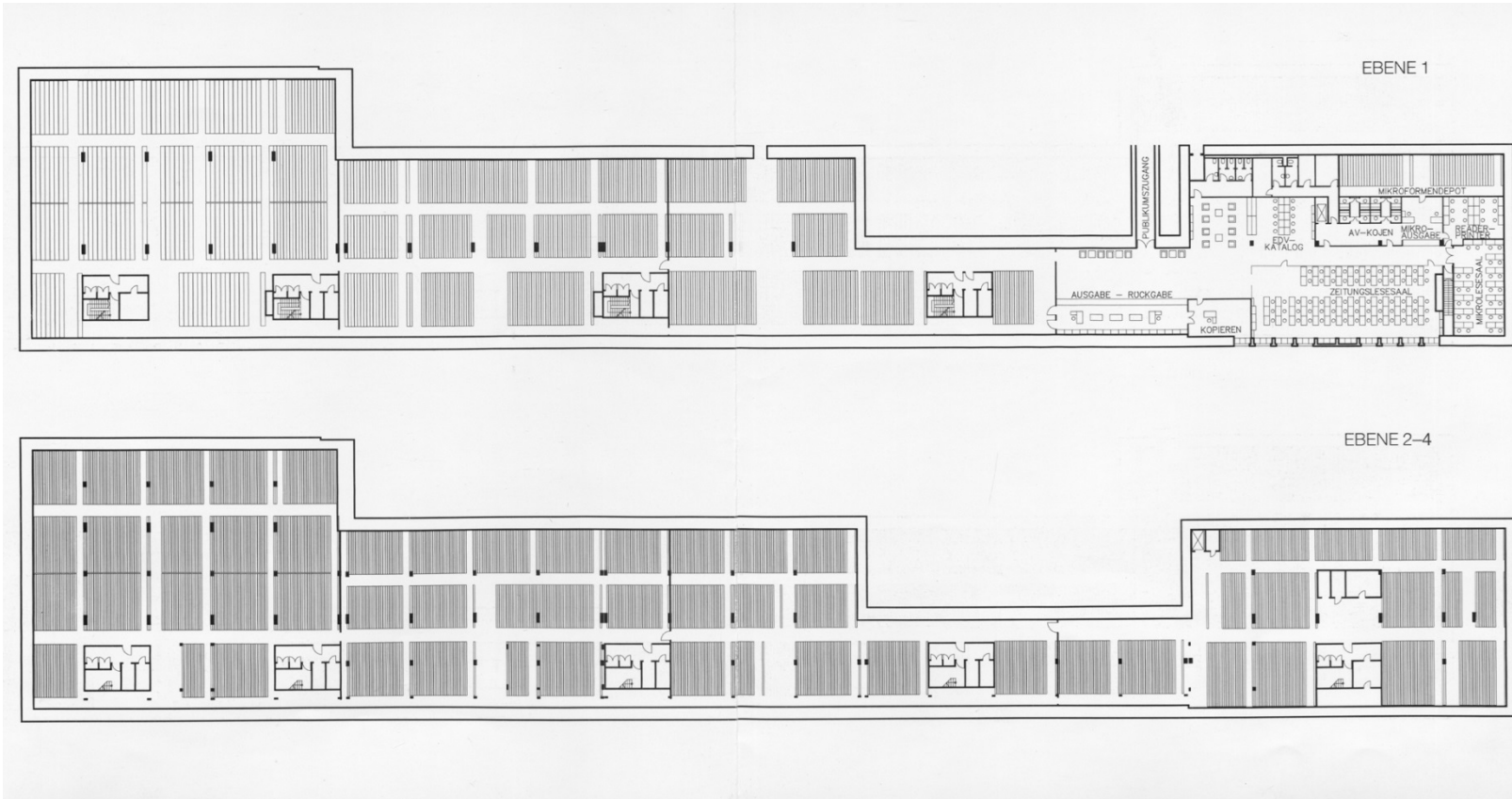








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## Fire protection

- Originally halon plant
- Today's use: Inergen
- 5% reduction of oxygen content in the air
- Individual detector identification
- Connection to the fire station of the Hofburg
- Gas flooding in case of alarm of two fire sections
- High quality but expensive
- Alarm ventilation (smoke extraction) is controlled by the fire alarm system



## Transport system - Telelift

### Time of provision


- Provision time can be reduced from 1 day to 2 hours

### Function and advantages

- Electronic
- Self-propelled containers
- 360 ° rotatable
- Capacity of approx. 10kg
- Speed 0.6m to 1.2m / sec
- No oncoming traffic due to two-lane route
- Almost silent operation
- Plant is expandable





Transportsysteme *Sumetzberger* 



STATION: 20/4









## Reform of the Federal Museum Law

- Changes in in organizational, structural and legal terms
- Spin-off of the federal museums from public administration
- Full legal capacity
- The library is financed from federal funds as before, but also generates additional funds
- Additional income by leasing its rooms or by using image rights
- Third-party funding







## Selection of remedial measures

- Redesign of the areas of use on Heldenplatz
- Adaptation of numerous office spaces
- Adaptation of magazines
- Disabled access throughout the building
- Establishment of an occupational medical service
- Measures in the areas of safety and fire protection as well as building services
- Adaptation of the in-house control system according to Cooperate De-sign



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## Visit to the Austrian National Library – Friday, 20 April

