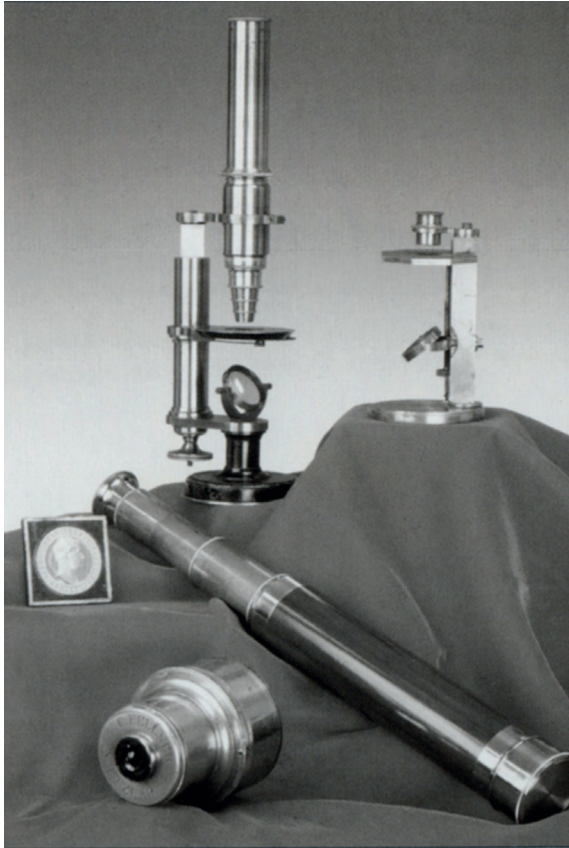


Carl Kellner und Wilhelm Seibert

The wide ring road is named after Carl Kellner (1826-1855), the founder of the optical and precision engineering industry in Wetzlar. The spelling was later changed to Karl Kellner. Carl Kellner opened his workshop in the historic center of Wetzlar at the "Reformierten Treppchen" (little reformed steps) Jäcksburg 29. His employees came from within the family circle, this also included Wilhelm (1840-1925) and Heinrich Seibert (1842-1907) from Haiger.



The manufacturing program of the Optical Institute of Carl Kellner

Microscopes, Tripod-loupe, Telescopes, Orthoscopic eyepieces for astronomical telescopes. In the picture the gold medal from the Prussian King for outstanding commercial accomplishments.

Wilhelm Seibert opened his first workshop in 1867 at the Brodschirm in the historic center of the city. He built microscopes for the company Ernst Gundlach in Berlin. When Gundlach suffered from financial difficulties, the brothers Wilhelm and Heinrich Seibert joined with the business man Georg Krafft in Wetzlar and acquired the Grundlach company. The company was then named "Ernst Gundlachs Nachfolger Seibert and Krafft".

In the year 1884 Wilhelm and Heinrich Seibert were able to separate from Krafft and moved in 1889 into the premises at Karl-Kellner-Ring No. 47/49. The fact that Seibert suffered from a decline in sales of research instruments during WWI, instigated Leitz in 1917 to acquire a majority interest in this company.

Wilhelm Seibert died in 1925 and his son Heinrich continued the company until 1931. During WWII the company was integrated into the manufacturing process of the Leitz workshops and their own production was given up.

The Seibert company was located behind the still visible, listed home of the brothers Wilhelm and Heinrich Seibert. Heinrich Seibert lived on the left side and Wilhelm Seibert on the right side. This half of the house was used by the artist Hermann Seibert, a grandson of Wilhelm Seibert.

The property belongs to the Lahn Dill Kreis since 1975. The factory buildings located behind were at last used by the Leitz Company and torn down 1977.



Employees of the Seibert Company around 1892

Text: Gerhild Seibert

Literature and pictures:

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