

## HISTORIC CENTRE OF WISMAR

World Cultural Heritage since 2002

### Engineering geological conditions and problems:

Wismar is situated at the southern edge of the Wismar Bay, an arm of the Baltic Sea. This bay was formed during the last glaciation - the Weichselian pleniglacial. Dead ice remnants in the north led to basin sedimentation and deposition of glacial-fluvial sediments (clay and silt) with a maximum thickness of 25 m in this area.

These basin sediments are cut by Pleistocene erosional channels filled with sands and organogenic sediments (up to 20 m thick). Large parts of the basin sediments are additionally covered by post-Pleistocene organogenic flood-plain sediments.

Furthermore, human settlement resulted in aggradations. This reclaimed land can reach a height of 10 m above the former surface, especially at the marginal parts of the inner city.

Areas with a thick cover of organogenic deposits or aggradations pose problems in foundation or reconstruction of buildings.



*Wismar*

### Protection measures already have been taken or have to be taken:

Drilling logs of many wells and engineering geological reports about Wismar and adjacent areas are kept in the archives of the Geological Survey of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

### Other information:

Stralsund and Wismar town centres are typical examples of the Hanseatic towns at the peak of their development during the prime of the Hanseatic League in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The ancient town centres have retained their medieval layout and bear witness to the establishment of towns thriving on shipping business according to the "Law of Lübeck".

Wismar is the most authentically preserved Hanseatic town on the southern Baltic.

### References on studies already performed:

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