

Friedrich Weißenborn (19th C.)

Founded/Born

-

??? - ???

Closed/Death

Still active?

no

Bruģi, Saukas luterāņu baznīca

Klauce-Sauka, LV-5224 Bruģi, Latvia



Builder	F. Weißenborn (19th C.)
Year	1866
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	9
Keyboards	1+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 448 Hz

Description

The single-manual organ with a permanently engaged Subbass 16' in the pedal is one of the first organs built by Friedrich Weißenborn in Latvia. Constructed in 1866 for 600 rubles, as noted on the organ's bellow seat, the organ was made by Weißenborn, an organ builder from Gotha, Germany. The competitive price of the organ compared to similar works, such as those by Weißenborn's teacher August Martin, highlights its value; for instance, Martin's 1863 organ for the Sloka Church with 8 registers cost 1050 rubles.

The pastor of the Sauka congregation, W. Müller, documented the construction of the organ along with other church furnishings in the "Rigasche Zeitung," where the organ was praised by Jelgava music director Rudolf Postel for its power, pleasant sound, tuning purity, and craftsmanship. Although Postel mentioned the organ had 10 voices, it actually has 9, likely referring to the number of stops at the console.

During World War I, all original prospect pipes were lost, now replaced by painted zinc pipes. The organ was tuned by H. Kolbe on July 18, 1925, and by Jēkabpils master Juris Sockis in 1928 and again in August 1938, as indicated by inscriptions on the organ. In the 1980s, missing pipes were replaced with new brass pipes crafted by Jānis Kalniņš inside the organ.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Principal 8'

Gamba 8'

Hohlflöte 8'

Flöte traverse 8'

Principal 4'

Flöte 4'

Octave 2'

Mixtur 3fach

Pedal

Subbass 16'

Additional: Pedal Coppel, Glocke

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/sauka_main.htm

Tukums, Tukuma evaņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

Brīvības laukums 1, LV-3101 Tukums, Latvia



Builder	F. Weißenborn (19th C.)
Year	ca. 1871
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	18
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 443 Hz

Description

The first known mention of an organ in Tukums Lutheran Church dates back to 1687, as recorded in the church inventory. In 1727, Friedrich Bönsing expanded and repaired the organ. This work included significant costs for various craftsmen and musicians, as well as a dedication ceremony. Part of the organ's prospect with an inscription from May 15, 1727, was still preserved in the church tower as of 1937.

New organs were built in 1769 by Kuldīga master Frölich, costing a significant amount including additional work for a trumpet register. In 1859, a new organ funded by the congregation was built by Liepāja organ builder C. Herrmann, featuring 12 stops, one manual, and a pedal. This organ underwent several modifications, including the addition of a Posaune 16' register in 1866 and a significant expansion in 1871 by Friedrich Weißenborn, which included adding a second manual, pedal, Mixtur register, and a third bellow.

Various repairs and maintenance were carried out over the years, including work by G. Grüneberg in 1916 and cleaning by A. Krāns in 1939. The current state of the organ, built in 1859 and expanded in 1871, showcases the craftsmanship of two prominent organ builders, C. Herrmann and F. Weißenborn. Despite its historical significance, the organ is in a dire condition due to extensive woodworm damage and urgently requires restoration.

Stoplist/Disposition

Hauptwerk	Oberwerk	Pedal
Principal 8'	Gedeckt 8'	Subbass 16'
Gamba 8'	Bartfloete 8'	Principalbass 16'
Doppelflauta 8'	Salicional 8'	Octavbass 8'
Hohlflöte 8'	Geigenprincipal 4'	Posaune 16'
Oktav 4'	Flauta 4'	
Flöte 4'		
Oktav 2'		
Mixtura 2'		
Trompete 8'		

Additional: Manual cop. (I/II), Ped.kop. (I/P), Oktavkopel, Schwell.pedal (Swell Pedal)

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/tukums_lut_main.htm

Ēvele, Ēveles luterāņu baznīcas

Ķestereja, Rencēni — Burtnieki — Daksti — Veckārķi, LV-4712 Ēvele, Latvia



Builder	F. Weißenborn (19th C.)
Year	ca. 1874
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	15
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 441.8 Hz

Stoplist/Disposition

I. Manual	II. Manual	Pedal
Bourdon 16'	Salicional 8'	Subbass 16'
Principal 8'	Gedackt 8'	Principalbass 8'
Gamba 8'	Querflöte 8'	Posaune 16'
Hohlflöte 8'	Flöte 4'	
Octave 4'		
Flöte 4'		
Octave 2'		
Mixtur 1' 4fach		

Additional: Pedal-koppel, Manual-koppel, Glocken Spiel, Glocke, Windablass

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/evele_main.htm

Kempji, Kempju evaņģēliski luteriskā baznīca

Līgatnes papīrfabrika - Asaru ezers - Nītaure, LV-4108 Kempji, Latvia



Builder	F. Weißenborn (19th C.)
Year	ca. 1888
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	9
Keyboards	1+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 440 Hz

Description

The organ built by Friedrich Weißenborn in 1888 for the Kempji Lutheran Church is a typical instrument of its time, featuring 9 registers, one manual, and a pedal. The organ contains several pencil inscriptions detailing the builder, the year of construction, and the cost of 1300 rubles. The instrument's interior also has numerous notes regarding its tuning and maintenance, with entries dating from 1897 to 1945, indicating regular upkeep and minor repairs over the years.

By the 1980s, the organ had fallen into disrepair, with damage from rodents rendering it unplayable. Significant restoration efforts began in the early 1990s, overseen by M. Valpēteris, including cleaning, valve repairs, and the installation of a new air supply motor. Further work in the 2000s involved creating and installing new pipes to replace the missing ones, using historical photographs for reference. The organ's case and some of the pipes have been recently repainted and repaired. Despite the extensive restoration, the organ's original sound design was maintained, with new pipes made to match the original specifications. The organ is now positioned at the western end of the church on a wooden balcony, with no detected woodworm damage but lacking modern heating and humidity control.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual

Pedal

Bordun 16'

Subbass 16'

Prinzipal 8'

Hohlflöt 8'

Gamba 8'

Piano 8'

Octave 4'

Flöt 4'

Mixtur 3f.

Additional: Pedal coppel, Octavencoppel, Collectiv, Signal

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/kempi_main.htm

Barkava, Barkavas Svētā Staņislava Romas katoļu baznīca

Parka iela 3, LV-4834 Barkava, Latvia



Builder	F. Weißenborn (19th C.)
Year	ca. 1890
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	13
Keyboards	1+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 450 Hz

Description

Since the church was built in 1882, it is highly likely that the organ by F. Weißenborn was installed here by the end of the 1880s. Initially, the organ had only manuals without a pedal, with the pedal keyboard and action added later. The builder of the pedal section is unknown.

The instrument was restored in 2011 under the direction of Jānis Pelše: the organ case was renovated, the pedal action was reinforced, a new air channel was built from the bellows to the pallets, the manual action was restored, the manual keyboards were refurbished, deformed tracker scales were replaced, and the pipes were repaired, voiced, and tuned.

Stoplist/Disposition

Manual	Pedal
Burdon 16'	Subbas 16'
Princypal 8'	Oktawbas 8'
Gambe 8'	
Holflet 8'	
Piano 8'	
Oktawa 4'	
Gedekt 8'	
Flet 4'	
Kwinta 3'	
Pikolo 2'	
Mixtura 2'	

Additional: Super (Octave coupler), Kalkant

Sources

https://www.orgcat.lv/barkava_main.htm

Vecvārķava, Upmalas Baznīca

Upmale - Ančkini - Pieniņi - Kausa 7A, LV-5335 Vecvārķava, Latvia



Builder	F. Weißenborn (19th C.)
Year	ca. 1890
Period/Style	Romantic
Stops	16
Keyboards	2+P
Keyaction	tracker/mechanical
Tuning	Equal at 437 Hz

Description

The organ is a relatively large instrument with a uniquely designed mechanical cone chest that is not typical for F. Weissenborn. However, its style, including the construction, action, pipes, console, and stop placements, closely resembles the works of this master. The pipes are particularly interesting, with distinctive characteristics such as an 8' Hohlflöte with a round mouth and 4' Octave with trapezoidal, very high cut-ups, producing a remarkable sound.

Despite its less-than-ideal, even poor, condition, the organ demonstrates high craftsmanship and a bold approach to interpretation. The church's excellent acoustics complement the instrument's sound, making its volume well-suited to the space. This combination of unique design and suitable acoustics highlights the instrument's quality and historical value.

Stoplist/Disposition

I. Manual	II. Manual	Pedal
Bourdun 16'	Geigenprincipal 8'	Subbass 16'
Principal 8'	Zartflöte 8'	Principalbass 16'
Gamba 8'	Traversflöte 8'	Posaune 16'
Hohlflöte 8'	Salicional 4'	
Gedackt 8'	Flöte 2'	
Octave 4'		
Mixtur 2 2/3'		
Trompete 8'		

Additional: Manualcoppel, Pedalcoppel, Octav Copel, Signal

Sources

https://orgcat.lv/vecvarkava_stab.htm