

## **General development plan 1948**

The 2nd World War also left its mark in Durmersheim and Würmersheim. In the last months of the war, 1944/45, our villages were repeatedly the target of massive bomb attacks and grenade bombardments, during which, in addition to building damage, civilian deaths were also reported.

In the war years 1939-1945 the village development came to a standstill.

After the war, the burdens of the occupation had to be mastered first. Durmersheim and Würmersheim were located in the French occupation zone. The district borders in the north were the zone border to the American zone, in which our neighbouring communities of Mörsch and Malsch were located.

During these years of new beginnings, the then newly elected mayor Ludwig Brunner and the municipal council in Durmersheim were gradually able to think about further urban development.

As early as 1946, refugees and displaced persons from the former German eastern territories, from today's Czech Republic and Slovakia and from the Balkans came to our villages. Housing was scarce, especially as many private apartments and houses were confiscated by the French troops. The existing living space was forcibly managed, families had to cede shares of their living space to the new arrivals.

The primary task for the municipal administration was to create additional housing. After the currency reform in 1948 with the introduction of the German Mark (DM) and then in 1949 after the foundation of the Federal Republic of Germany, the desired goals could be tackled.

The planning was based on a general development plan from 1948, in which new building areas to be created, public facilities required for the increasing number of inhabitants and new road connections were listed.

Many of these projects date back to the pre-war period and were now approached under new political auspices.

In comparison to the current urban development status of the municipality of Durmersheim, the plan shows interesting starting points.