

Englisch

1st book: Dynasty and self-conception

1. The literature on Heidelberg Castle is characterised on the one hand by the work of Adolf Oechelhäuser (1st edition 1891, 8th edition 1987!), which is based on ideas of the 19th century and is still considered a standard work up to the present day, and on the other hand by scholarly works on individual topics which, however, have not been able to develop a broad impact.
2. The scholarly work suffers from the fact that a publication of registers only exists up to the year 1410 and that (according to reports) the holdings of documents in the Bavarian State Archives in Munich have not been processed.
3. In the historical view, the Electors and Counts Palatines appear as a dynasty with a Europe-wide network and thus a European significance.
4. since the 13th century, neither the older Palatinate nor the younger Bavarian branch of the Wittelsbach dynasty has borne the traditional name of the Wittelsbach dynasty, which has been reused in modern depictions. The common family name is „von Bayern“, for the Palatine Counts the office of the Palatine Count near Rhine becomes the determining name.
5. There is no dynasty „of the Palatinate“ (german „von der Pfalz“). This is an invention of the 19th century to use a name with the nobility predicate „of“ („von“).
6. The office of Palatinate County goes back to a Merovingian tradition and, in accordance with the necessities of the feudal order, was linked to defined rights of domination over land and people. The origin of the Palatinate County is thereby a royal position in the west of the empire, linked to the imperial palace of Aachen and the old part of the Lorraine empire.
7. This reference to Lorraine became important once again for Count Palatine Konrad (r. 1156 - 1194), then recedes as a political factor.
8. The importance of this office of Palatinate County – and thus of the principality – is shown by the fact that royal rights were already being exercised before 12th century, including in the representation of the king himself. With the stabilization of the princely rule in the empire, the court office of archsteward was also associated with the Palatinate since the 13th century.
9. With the transfer of the Palatinate County at the Rhine to the Staufer Konrad in 1156, the process of territorialisation began, i.e. the firm connection of the original

- Palatinate office with a defined territory. This means an alignment of the Palatinate with other duchies that were already consolidated earlier in this development.
10. The assignment of the Palatinate County in 1214 to the Wittelsbach Duke Ludwig of Bavaria was initially for political reasons in the consolidation of the rule of the Staufer King Friedrich II. the marriage of Duke Ludwig's son Otto to the Palatine daughter Agnes of Brunswick was primarily intended to prevent competition for the inheritance.
 11. Heidelberg only became the central place for the Palatinate County in the Wittelsbach period. A foundation of a New Town (Neustadt) and the lower castle before 1220 can be ruled out according to the archaeological findings.
 12. One of the main places of the Palatinate County in the time before Konrad von Staufen was Bacharach, in his time it was Alzey. Another secondary residence was Neustadt an der Weinstraße, in the 14th century also Amberg in the Upper Palatinate, at the end of the 14th century Kaiserslautern was added.
 13. In the course of the 15th and 16th century, a ring of 5 hunting lodges developed to the west of the main residence in Heidelberg, of which only Schwetzingen acquires permanent importance.
 14. The Upper Palatinate is an important part of the Palatinate County and permanent residence of sons of the Count Palatines and Electors reigning in Heidelberg. They have a deputy function in this part of the duchy. The mining industry here is one of the economic foundations of the Palatinate County. The capital of the Upper Palatinate is Amberg with two count's and elector's castles.
 15. The coat of arms of the entire Wittelsbach dynasty is the combination of the Palatine Count's lion (gold on black) and the white-blue diamonds („Wecken“) of the family. These heraldic figures can be shown divided on one shield or spread over two shields.
 16. An origin of the lion from the Lorraine tradition (duchy of Brabant) is probable.
 17. The family coat of arms is supplemented by a third shield for the Electors at Heidelberg in the 15th century, which is coloured red and initially empty. It designates the electoral dignity. In 1544, Elector Friedrich II was granted the right by Emperor Karl V to use the Imperial Orb in the red shield as a symbol of the imperial vicariate and archsteward's office. Since then this heraldic drawing has been a symbol of the electorate.
 18. Since 1623, the coat of arms in this form has been the coat of arms of the Duchy of Bavaria, which, following its victory over the Palatinate County, took on dignities and coats of arms as spoils of war. With its restoration in 1648, the Elector Palatinate again wore the old coat of arms with the empty red shield.

19. The rank of the Palatine Counts is expressed in their fiefdom over more than 14 counties on the Middle and Lower Rhine and as the centre of political orientation for Kraichgau and Wetterau. Thus, since the beginning of its history, the Palatinate County has been on an equal footing with other duchies in the empire.
20. The Wittelsbachs as Counts Palatine at the Rhine and Dukes of Bavaria in the 13th century placed themselves emphatically in close proximity to the Stauffer kings and emperorship. This political closeness was also expressed in marriage ties.
21. In the following period, the Wittelsbachs entered into marriage with all ruling royal families in the empire, thus emphasizing their royal status.
22. In the Wittelsbach area, probably already in the 13th century, the tradition of a descent from the Carolingians, especially from Charlemagne, developed.
23. This „common property“ of German noble houses was, however, in the reality of the 14th and 15th century, concretized by means of targeted marriage policy in such a way that in the end not only 2 Roman popes, 14 Roman emperors and a multitude of kings between Sicily and Sweden were represented in the ancestry, but that in fact the connection to the Carolingian dynasty was established.
24. Top ancestor for Elector Philip (reigned 1476 - 1508) was the King of France, specifically his great-great-grandfather King John the Good (+1364) with his son Duke Charles of Burgundy.
25. Expression of this special ancestor cult is the princely cycle, which was formerly hung in the King's Hall of the Heidelberg Castle. It shows not only the male ancestry, but also emphasizes the role of women in dynastic politics.
26. From this point of view, some preserved funerary monuments of the Palatines can also be reinterpreted as evidence of this special ancestor cult.
27. In order to make this Carolingian tradition clear in the architectural appearance of the Heidelberg Residence Palace, columns from the Carolingian Palace at Ingelheim were brought to Heidelberg in the 1480s to be used as spolia and thus as bearers of meaning; the King's Hall also quotes the Carolingian palace hall at Ingelheim in its expression.
28. Elector Ludwig probably received a significant impulse for the representative decoration of the Heidelberg residence during his two longer stays at the French royal court.
29. The network of political and family connections was demonstrated above all at family celebrations. Accordingly, the task of reporting is not so much to record the ceremony but to list the participants.

30. The provision of spiritual / ecclesiastical careers for post-born sons is an important means of political influence in the 15th and early 16th centuries. As a result of this policy, Wittelsbachs occupied the electoral chairs of Mainz, Trier and Cologne, as well as the dioceses of Strasbourg, Augsburg, Freising and Regensburg. The latter were considered to be Wittelsbach's house dioceses. The dioceses of Worms and Speyer were particularly closely linked to the Palatinate.
31. With the Reformation this possibility of political influence was eliminated.
32. A knight was not a martial, lonely fighter for right and justice, but a representative of the lower nobility, who could, with appropriate performance, pursue a career in the middle administrative service of a prince.
33. „Knight“ was also an honorary title that could be awarded on the basis of special merits. For all knights, except for the lower nobility, the knighthood did not change anything in their social quality.
34. The royal-like position of the Palatines („equal to a king“) in the Empire's political and social environment was the basis of a deep conflict with the ruling royal houses between 1350 and 1620, especially from 1470 with the House of Habsburg.
35. This conflict became manifest from 1470 in the dispute about the Alsace, specifically about the bailiwick of Alsace. Alsace was considered by all parties involved to be the key to supremacy in Central Europe.
36. In 1486 Elector Philip used a third class conflict in the Black Forest to demonstrate his almost royal power.
37. In this conflict, the House of Habsburg had to understand any attempt to increase the Palatinate's territorial base as a direct attack on its supremacy and kingship in the empire.
38. The attempt of Elector Philip to enlarge this base through the marriage of his son Ruprecht to the heritage daughter of Duke George the Rich of Landshut was therefore doomed to failure as an attack on the Habsburg supremacy.

2nd book: Ad vitam - The Palatines and Electors and their Residence

39. The Treaty of Pavia in 1329 made a clear separation between the two branches of the family of the Counts Palatine and the Dukes of Bavaria. The privilege of electorate was to be exercised alternately by both lines. In 1356 the imperial law of the Golden Bull granted the electorate to the Palatinate alone. The reason for this is on the one hand the traditional rank of the Palatinate County, on the other hand the fact that the Bavarian branch of the family already held a vote with the Margraviate of Brandenburg.

Subsequently, the Bavarian branch of the Wittelsbach family insisted on the agreement of 1329, while the Palatinate Wittelsbach family invoked the constitutional law replacing this agreement.

40. In the 14th century, the Heidelberg Residence was upgraded to royal rank by the founding of the university in 1386 and the Collegiate of Holy Spirit (Heiliggeiststift) in 1398 for the care of the tombs.
41. Elector Ruprecht III used his position as Roman king to strengthen his own household power – which was the usual means of securing royal rule – and assigned important deposits of the Empire to his family. The territorial position broke up in the division of the duchy in 1410.
42. The furnishing of the collegiate church in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse with vault paintings and coat of arms keystones goes back to Ludwig III.
43. Ludwig III and IV were able to establish dynastic ties with the most important families in France by marrying daughters of the House of Savoy.
44. The early death of Ludwig IV required a guardianship over his still very young son Philip, which his brother Frederick the Victorious took over. On the one hand, he strengthened the Palatinate's position through his military successes, but on the other hand also brought it into acute conflict with Emperor Frederick III.
45. The competition with the House of Habsburg can be seen on the one hand in Frederick's efforts to win the daughter of the Duke of Burgundy as wife for his nephew Philip, and on the other hand in King Maximilian's efforts to win the heiress of Lower Bavaria as wife for his son Charles.
46. This competition with the House of Habsburg is also responsible for the fact that both Emperor Frederick III and King Maximilian, contrary to the verdict of the other Electors, refused to confirm the electoral dignity of Frederick the Victorious in place of his nephew Philip.
47. The legend of the „Meal at Heidelberg“ after the battle of Seckenheim in 1462 is an invention of the 16th century and has a parallel in the efforts of the Palatines to limit the collateral damage of the war with regard to the supply situation.
48. The appearance of the Elector Philipp showed claims in some occasions, which otherwise only a reigning king could develop.
49. The efforts of Elector Philipp to make the Duchy of Lower Bavaria heritage for his son Ruprecht could have been legally justified, but met with bitter resistance from King Maximilian.

59. In the preparation of this conflict, Elector Philip relied on an alliance with the French king, who, however, showed restraint.
51. The result of the Landshut War of Succession in 1504 was the loss of the Palatinate's entire power in the central and southern Upper Rhine region. The Princedom of Neuburg at the Danube was created to settle the inheritance claims of the Count Palatine Ruprecht's children.
52. This humiliation of the County of the Palatinate determined the policy of Elector Ludwig V and his attitude towards the Habsburg Monarchy. In order to avoid another war, he tacted with great skill and thus secured a long period of peace for the Palatinate.
53. As a demonstration of self-confidence – also towards the Emperor – and as a signal of strength towards his own followers, he had built the western fortifications of Heidelberg Castle, in which he cited the Thick Tower, the tower that King Maximilian had built in the former Landshut fortress of Kufstein.
54. During the negotiations for the emperor's election in 1519, Ludwig V used his option for the candidate Franz I of France to get concessions by Charles V. Despite higher offers on the part of the French king he finally gave Charles V his vote.
55. In the 1520s, Ludwig V was open to the Reformation, and was certainly aware of the plan of the Saxon Elector to bring Martin Luther to safety after the Worms Diet in 1521, but avoided taking an official position in order to avoid a military conflict with the Emperor.
56. Ludwig's measures in the Sickingen War of 1523 and the Peasants' War of 1525 can be interpreted in relation to the question of the Reformation in such a way that he did not approve of a reformation by the people, but regarded reformation alone as the Prince's task.
57. The plans of Emperor Charles V to have his brother Ferdinand elected as Roman king were blocked for years by Ludwig V, who finally forced the emperor to make considerable concessions - above all the return of Alsace, albeit only for his own lifetime and that of his brother Frederick II. In the course of this dispute there was also discussion of electing the Duke of Bavaria as king in order to prevent Habsburg supremacy.
58. With the personal sympathy of Ludwig V, the first systematic pharmaceutical manual was created with his 13 Books of Medicine, which, in the spirit of humanism, kept itself free of superstition and veneration of saints.
59. Like Ludwig, his brother Friedrich (the subsequent Elector Friedrich II) was open to the Reformation. The latter appointed the Reformer Martin Bucer as preacher in

Neumarkt and in 1524 presented a comprehensive paper on the reformation of the Church (some of whose basic demands still occupy the Church today).

60. Count Palatine Frederick is considered a party member of the Habsburgs, but in the course of his life he developed enlightening ideas for which his time was far from ripe. On the occasion of the 1555 Peace of Augsburg he took the view that it should not be up to the prince but to each individual subject to decide which denomination he adheres to.
61. In addition to Frederick the Victorious in 15th century, Frederick's nephew Philip („the Quarrelsome“) was also revered as a war hero in the Palatine house. He went to the Turkish war in 1532 and proved to be successful. Incidentally, he refused to accept the knighthood after the battle.
62. Count Palatine Friedrich was a traveling prince and traveled three times to Spain to see his emperor. On one of these trips he visited the grave of the Carolingian paladin Roland in Blaye.
63. Count Palatine Friedrich, like all nobles, took care of his reputation. In his estimate for his participation in the Turkish campaign he claimed the cost of an additional 8 donkeys „for clothing and silverware“. The Emperor thought that this was by no means too much.
64. Friedrich's open turn to the Reformation was due to his disappointment with the stalling policy of his emperor, who did not meet justified demands.
65. Friedrich's wife Dorothea is generally regarded as a Danish princess, but she received her highly self-confident stamp at the court of her aunt Margarethe in Brussels. She can be seen as one of the driving forces behind Friedrich's turning away from Habsburg politics.
66. The Renaissance moved into Heidelberg with Frederick, and his „Glassy Hall“ is the first building in this style and the first building not intended for residential purposes.
67. The time of the Electors Ludwig V and Friedrich II, but also the following period of Ottheinrich's reign represents a considerable break in the cultivation of family and political networks due to the childlessness of the princes.
68. His experiences in the face of the Emperor's struggle against the Reformation are reflected in the picture programme of his Ottheinrich building. On the one hand, it is a challenge to keep oneself prepared for the final battle for the Reformation (like „Armageddon“), on the other hand it contains a vision of a future peace empire under the leadership of the (Palatinate) Wittelsbachs.

69. Under Friedrich III from the line of the Counts Palatine of Simmern, the Princely House turned to the Reformed confession. Under his and his son Johann Casimir's leadership, the Electoral Palatinate intervenes actively in the religious struggles in France and the Netherlands. Freedom, life and property became central concepts in Palatinate politics.
70. Since Friedrich's son Ludwig VI did not join in the change of confession, the Princely House changed its religion when he took office, first to the Lutheran confession and then, after his death, to the Reformed confession. The population and parts of the clergy did not go along with this change, so that an unstable mixture of denominations developed. In an atmosphere of agitation and targeted false reports, the wife of Johann Casimir fell victim to it.
71. With Johann Casimir, the administrator of the Electorat, a phase of pleasure and lightheartedness arrived at court. He documents his network in family registers and his pleasure in hunting in a shooting register. During the time of his administrative government he managed to bring his nephew back to the Reformed denomination. Politically he is able to position the Electoral Palatinate as an ally of the anti-catholic powers of Europe. Under Friedrich IV the court also gains more and more royal charisma. The drinking habits at court, as at all German courts, became an expression of an increased enjoyment and also of pleasure, but did not allow any conclusions to be drawn about the Prince's character traits.
72. Friedrich IV fulfilled the requirements that the early 17th century placed on a prince of his rank. He did not meet the demands that the 19th century made on a prince of his rank.
73. Friedrich IV did not die from alcohol excesses, but from a gout attack, for the severity of which a genetic defect among the descendants of the Polish king Casimir (+ 1492) was probably responsible. His reputation as a drunkard was based on Catholic propaganda, which, apart from him, also accused Count Palatine Wolfgang of Zweibrücken (+1569) and Pope Hadrian IV of drunkenness for political reasons.
74. Reducing the wedding celebrations of Friedrich V with Elisabeth Stuart to a romantic love story is a criminal simplification that is only suitable for ignoring the political implications. The wedding celebrations in Heidelberg alone are an expression of the royal claims of prince and court.
75. Friedrich V. loved to go speed sailing on the beach of Scheveningen.
76. Friedrich V is the exponent of a successful dynastic exaltation that put him in line with the kings of Europe. He is the grandson of the Prince of Orange and a French princess from the House of Bourbon (even though she was disinherited, there was a family connection to the French royalty), his cousin was the King of Sweden, his

father-in-law the King of England, his wife's uncle the King of Denmark. Due to the sudden death of his brother-in-law, the Prince of Wales, he was number one on the English throne for a short time through his marriage. And he was on his way to the Roman kingdom.

77. The Thirty Years' War was already about to break out in 1610, when the Catholic-Habsburg side intervened aggressively in the Jülich-Kleve inheritance dispute in order to preserve the Catholic possessions. The coalition between France, England, Denmark, the Electoral Palatinate and Palatinate-Neuburg broke up, however, when King Henry IV of France fell victim to an assassination attempt by a Catholic terrorist and Elector Friedrich IV died that same year.
78. The driving force in the preparations for the global conflict was the Palatinate governor and advisor to the Elector Prince Christian von Anhalt. Already at the beginning of the 17th century he had seen no other way to achieve equality of the Reformed denomination in Europe than a pan-European war. He used the forced pause to create a stronger connection with the English royal house.
79. To bring the Bohemian royalty into Palatine hands would have meant breaking up the Catholic majority of the Electoral College. Establishing religious freedom for Bohemia would have opened up Upper and Lower Austria to the Reformation. Both were suitable to make the emperor's position of power permanently obsolete. The Catholic party logically regarded these efforts as the work of the Antichrist. In this case, Duke Maximilian of Bavaria announced a war „of 20, 30 or 40 years“.
80. In view of the traditional rivalry between the Palatinate Wittelsbach dynasty and the Habsburgs, the move to the Bohemian and ultimately the imperial crown is historically logical and may have been seen as the last chance to take this risk. One of Frederick V's „debts“ to the war is a 19th century construction that could never condone military action against either the imperial house or the Catholic denomination.
81. The designation „Winter King“ does not correspond to the duration of his Bohemian kingship, but originates from Catholic propaganda based on a popular custom: During the time of the May King, the Winter King is driven from the city.
82. Elizabeth Stuart had no active part in the development. Schiller's word of the „sauerkraut in Prague“ might be attributed to the downstream propaganda, similar to Marie Antoinette's word of the cake that the people should eat when they had no bread. It is easy to understand, that, as the daughter of a reigning king, she did not exactly reject Friedrich's king plan.
83. The so-called Palatinate War of Succession is neither Palatinate nor a War of Succession. Louis XIV waged it under the pretext of a right of succession to the Palatinate for two reasons: Firstly, the Emperor was to be forced to recognize his reunions, and

secondly, the new Elector Philipp Wilhelm von Pfalz-Neuburg together with his son and successor Johann Wilhelm were to be put in their place. The background to this is both the Emperor's military success in the Turkish War and the family ties of the House of Neuburg with Habsburg, Spain, Portugal and Poland.

3rd book: The castle

84. In the preserved inventories of the chateau, parts of everyday life as well as the furnishings of the 16th century can be seen.
85. Count Palatine Christoph (+1574) had a library of 420 volumes and a do-it-yourself workshop.
86. The castle's pharmacy was under the electresse's control, the quality of its furnishings represents her position.
87. The inventories of the garments show that the princes up to the Elector wore very colourful clothing.
88. Prince's travels were a logistical challenge for the entire court. This included supplies up to - in winter - coal for heating. The travel speed of the prince with his retinue was between 25 and 47 km per day. 47 km was so challenging for the travellers that they had to take a day's rest afterwards. The main focus of the supply of the travel group was oats for the horses.
89. The entry of a prince at a foreign court was a social event and a political event of first order, where all the stops were pulled out to demonstrate social status.
90. Towards the end of the 16th century, descriptions of weddings and similar celebrations were created in which the seating and thus the ranking of the guests was meticulously documented. The social prestige was particularly evident in the printed lists of how many horses had to be looked after.
91. In sometimes very opulent show dinners, which lasted for hours, and in masked processions, the whole claim of the hosting court unfolded.
92. Archaeology has now proven that the Lower Castle was founded in the first half of the 13th century, if not in the first third. However, it was only after the Treaty of Pavia in 1329 that the palace became the permanent residence and seat of government of the Palatine Counts. The oldest buildings can be reconstructed on the basis of the rising masonry on the site of today's Glass Hall Building and the Ludwig's Building.

93. Already at the time of King Ruprecht (around 1400) the palace had 36 heatable rooms. This makes it possible to reconstruct more than just isolated buildings on the palace grounds.
94. At the site of the Glassy Hall Building stood the large palace of the medieval complex with a large hall („Dürnitz“) at ground floor.
95. The Ruprecht Building is not a „royal building“ of King Ruprecht. It was built by Ludwig III or IV, perhaps even by Frederick the Victorious. A purpose is unknown throughout, the ground floor rooms are definitely too small for a dining hall. The ceremonial nature of the court suggests subordinate occasions or a smaller meeting room for guests before moving into the King's Hall. The upper floors of the Ruprecht Building probably served as apartments for Elector Friedrich II and his wife after its reconstruction by Ludwig V. The rooms can be reconstructed as sleeping chamber, antechamber („Stube“) and dining room.
96. The building known as the library building accommodated books at most in the second half of the 17th century, mainly serving the electoral court chamber as a chancellery building. Its original purpose as a building for the royal court banquet („Herrentafelstubenbau“) has already been proven. It can be further developed by parallels in the French palace building towards a princely residential building („Donjon“) in French style with a large dining room and a princely chamber on the 2nd floor.
97. The bay window on the 2nd floor is part of the princely representation under Ludwig V and symbolises his overview of the princely court. Erasmus of Rotterdam said that the Prince needed two pairs of eyes - one around the country, the other to keep an eye on the court.
98. The name „library building“ stems from the desperation of the 19th century to give the building a name, and seeing it as a repository for the library was more in keeping with the educated middle classes.
99. A large representative hall existed already in 15th century. It is not excluded that this was already the today's Kings Hall. It takes its name from the principdom's claim to royalty, which it radiated. Uncertainties about the details of the construction period exist, but cannot be cleared up.
100. The Kings Hall („Königssaal“) quotes its shape from the palace hall of the Carolingian royal palace in Ingelheim. This includes the long rectangular floor plan, the flat wooden ceiling, which is completely atypical for a princely representation hall of this order, and the princely bay window on the north side.
101. The series of prince's portraits hanging here at the latest in the 16th century was begun in the first half of the 15th century and continued successively. It was probably resto-

- red during the reign of Frederick II or Ottheinrich, whereby the texts were partially altered.
102. The last large barrel in the cellar was built in 1750 under Carl Theodor and was probably only completely filled once. The infrastructure of the Electoral Palatinate proved to be too weak for further fillings. A pump was set up for the university anniversary in 1886 and supplied the festive society with wine from a handy barrel set up in the cellar.
 103. As the second barrel had a dance floor, which was actually used for courtly amusements in 1718/19, the third barrel was also set up in this way. However, it was soon noticed that with the size of the barrel the space up to the cellar ceiling was so small that one could no longer dance.
 104. At the time of Elector Carl Philipp, there actually existed a court dwarf who had fun with visitors. It remains questionable that he was more eager to drink than others, that he had a special relationship with the barrel, that his name was Perkeo at all.
 105. The construction of the massive gate tower was not based on technical defence requirements, but on basic ideas of representation. For the defence of the apron there was exactly one embrasure available.
 106. The „manhole“ in the gate wing of the entrance tower served less to restrict access in case of defence, but to protect against scroungers.
 107. Ludwig V had the western fortifications built not to protect himself, but to make an impression. Furthermore, the Thick Tower did not make sense from a defensive point of view, but was an additional demonstration of power towards the emperor.
 108. The base of the bell tower may also be based on a French model.
 109. From 1545, Frederick II had the Glassy Hall not built as a residential building, but solely to provide space for representation and festivities. It thus corresponds to corridors in French palaces, which were used to display princely objects of painting and carpet weaving. The façade design with the first multi-storey Renaissance arcades in Germany as well as the relocation of the festivities' hall to top floor can be traced back to the model of the Wawel in Cracow, which was designed by an Italian architect and mediated by Ottheinrich during his trip to Cracow.
 110. The façade of Ottheinrich's building is not only a mirror of princes with the theme of power and virtues, but also a sophisticated reformation political programme. The ground floor figures are all depicted in their military component, Sol and Jupiter in the roof zone bear imperial attributes and refer to a peace empire after the end of the confessional conflicts under the leadership of the (Palatinate) Wittelsbach dynasty.

111. The figures at Friedrichsbau (around 1606) not only represent the fame of the Electoral Palatinate, but also claim Charlemagne as the dynasty's ancestor and warrant of its royalty. Both the sequence of the lion depictions and the sword positions of the figures at ground floor are the result of a sophisticated composition. Incidentally, the Friedrichsbau is not „mannerist“, as it is often referred to, but rather pure late Renaissance with the first burgeoning elements of the earliest Baroque.
112. Friedrich V. had built a banqueting hall with a floor area of about 500 square meters and a dome height of approximately 16-18 m on the Thick Tower's platform. The hall is called Cenaculum, dining hall, and Merian also described it as such. A festivity probably never took place here, as the Elector left for Bohemia a few weeks after its completion. After 30 Year's war, Carl Ludwig initially refrained from restoring the glazing, but later had built here a theatre hall.
113. In the noble architecture of the English Building, the splendour reaches a final climax. Buildings of equal rank of this kind can only be found at the English royal court at this time.
114. The garden behind the palace, which was laid out from 1615 onwards and for whose design the hydraulic engineer Salomon de Caus was won over, also shows royal rank. The garden shone with its sophisticated water engineering, even though a large part of the installations for which the garden was subsequently and still today is famous were never completed.
115. During the distribution of the mobile inventory of the palace in 1685, 500 works of old masters from the Electoral Picture Gallery, over 250 tapestries, the entire newly compiled palace library and probably also large parts of the furniture disappeared under the eyes of the commissioners of the House Palatinate-Neuburg. Main parts of the treasure chamber were brought to Düsseldorf.
116. The paintings from the Heidelberg Painting Gallery at the castle are either lost or scattered to the four winds, the tapestries may have been transported to France, distributed to the court nobility and the minions of the Duke of Orleans, possibly thrown into the street during the looting of 1789 and burned. The books of the castle library were indistinguishably sorted into other libraries. Gold and silver objects were melted down. In the town, at the latest in 1693, the graves of the Palatines and Electors were looted and destroyed, the tombs were smashed, the rubble was largely removed. The 19th century has softened the great and individual history of the Palatines and imposed its ideas on it. Heidelberg still has a burnt-out ruin that is considered romantic, but no works of art that the visitor could stand in awe.